

City offshore havens under Labour attack

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

A Labour Government would consider altering the constitutional relationship between Britain and the Channel Islands and Isle of Man and extending more company law to apply to them in the attempt to stamp out City fraud.

A document, *Making the City Safe*, published yesterday included a section, not yet established as policy but designed to outline party thinking and stimulate public debate, on measures to cut down fraud, in particular insider dealing.

It makes suggestions for the compulsory appointment to public company boards of a stipulated proportion of outside directors and the enforced disclosure of nominee shareholdings by freezing the dividends and voting rights on such shares and banning their trading.

Labour says that few fraudsters deal in their own names and nominee shareholdings provide them with the perfect cover. Although the party admits there are practical problems in enforcing disclosure of the beneficial ownership of shareholdings, it says that managements are entitled to

know who owns their companies.

The document says on offshore havens: "Time after time investigations of suspect share dealing reach a dead end when they run up against a paper company registered in one of the havens which specialize in providing bolt-holes for money that shuns the light."

"The attraction to the fraudster of their negligible requirements of disclosure is increasingly as much an incentive to their use as the tax advantage which their address confers."

"Our proposals on nominee shareholdings will provide a potent weapon in the armoury against those who shelter behind such havens, but it is for consideration whether there are not measures which could be taken to limit their ready availability."

"This is most obviously the case in relation to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, who account for the bulk of nominee companies dealing in Britain but registered offshore."

"It is particularly galling that these British territories should be turning to their commercial advantage the concealment of criminal activity on the mainland of Britain."

In a clear warning of Labour's intent, the document adds: "The constitutional relationship between Britain and these self-governing islands commands respect, but will inevitably be undermined if they continue to permit it to be exploited by the insider dealers."

"In the event of their co-operation not being forthcoming in the fight against fraud, it may be desirable for Parliament to consider how to deny these havens to fraudsters, including the extension of UK legislation to these offshore islands by bringing them within the scope of certain aspects of company law."

No attempt has been made by the Government to extend the provisions of company law to the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

Officials claim to be able to trace the beneficial owners of nominee shareholdings with the aid of island officials. The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are dependencies of the Crown. The British Government is responsible for defence and external relations but they have their own legislatures, judiciaries and systems of administration.

Acts of Parliament do not apply to the islands unless they contain express provision that they should do so or have been extended to the islands by an Order in Council. Areas where laws have been applied are merchant shipping, aerial navigation and nationality questions.

The main section of the Labour document sets out plans for the regulation of the City by an independent statutory commission. It would have much wider powers than the Securities and Investments Board set up by the Government, taking over responsibilities for the regulation of Lloyds, which was exempted from the Government's Financial Services Act, and also for the work of the City Takeover Panel.

Interest rate cut delayed by Bank

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

The pound rose sharply yesterday as the Bank of England stepped in for the fourth time in the past fortnight to head off a cut in interest rates.

Optimism about the mix of interest rate cuts and tax handouts which the Chancellor will be able to announce when he gives his Budget speech a week on Tuesday is now so intense that money markets are pressing for an interest rate cut now.

Worries about the dollar and better prospects for Britain's payments balance

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are making sterling highly sought after in world markets. The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, wants to keep the cut in rates for which financial markets are pressing until after the Budget. He is now expected to have between £3 billion and £5 billion to give away. This would allow a cut in standard rate income tax of between 2p and 4p which would bring it down to the Government's target rate of 25p in the pound. He wants an interest rate cut after the Budget to show that financial markets approve of his plans.

It remains unclear whether the Bank of England can delay a cut in rates as long as the Budget Day. The pressure for lower interest rates has been generated largely by the strength of the pound. Yesterday sterling was again strong, rising by 0.5 in terms of its exchange rate index to 71.4. Against the dollar it was up 1.1 cent at \$1.5764 and against the mark 24 pence at DM2.8958.

Sterling is being supported largely by the high level of interest rates compared with other international financial centres. Good economic news and support for the Conservatives in the opinion polls are also helping.



Mr Heath who may be the beneficiary of Tory tactical voting intended to keep Mr Roy Jenkins out of the Oxford race.

'Thatcher backing for Heath'

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Backers of Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, for the post of Chancellor of Oxford University believed yesterday that they had won the tacit support of Mrs Thatcher.

Conservative MPs are hoping for a large slice of tactical voting to keep out Mr Roy Jenkins, the former leader of the SDP.

With the Conservative vote split between Mr Heath and Lord Blake, the provost of Queen's College, Tory MPs eligible to vote were saying yesterday that Mr Jenkins would win unless the Tories threw their weight behind one candidate.

Although Mrs Thatcher is being careful not to state a preference, which some of those close to her feel would be counter-productive, Heath supporters were taking comfort from signals that suggested that, despite their old enmity, she would not be opposed to their man getting the job.

Spectrum, page 10

Cadbury asks for share buying inquiry

Cadbury Schweppes last night asked the Stock Exchange to launch an inquiry into dealings in its shares.

The company said it believed an inquiry was in the best interests of shareholders in view of the recent disclosure of charges being made under the Company Securities (Insider Dealing) Act 1985 over dealings in its shares.

The announcement comes a week after Mr Geoffrey Collier, the former securities head at Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, faced charges of insider dealing in Cadbury Schweppes shares. The alleged offences refer to last October. This is in addition to three charges relating to AE, the engineering group.

A stake of more than 8 per cent has been built up in Cadbury by General Cinema, the US chain advised by Morgan American subsidiary.

BA's quiet jet, page 25

BAe wins £170m new orders

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Aerospace soared back into the top league of the world's aircraft makers yesterday with orders worth £170 million for 19 aeroplanes.

The orders, for 13 BAe 146 four-engine jets and six Jetstream 31 executive transports, mean that this year the company has won contracts totalling nearly £1 billion.

Sir Raymond Lygo, managing director, said that he was "very satisfied".

"We have not really been in the civil aviation market for many years," he said. "Now we are getting the rewards of our efforts. But it will still be the mid-1990s before we really harvest the fruits because we must now build on the initial success of re-establishing ourselves in the market place."

The biggest new deal was with Washington-based Presidential Airways, which signed contracts for ten 85 seat 146-200s for a jet service for Continental Airlines along the US west coast.

Another two have been ordered by the freight group TNT to add to the one they already have for the delivery of overnight mail in Europe. One more is going to an unnamed African country which will use it as a VIP jet.

The successful Jetstream 31 18-seat turbo-prop made even more inroads into the lucrative US market with two going to States West, in Phoenix, Arizona. A new Italian airline, Aliblu, has ordered four to feed "thin" routes in Italy and Europe.

With Airbus now well established as a real contender for major airline purchasing deals, the future has rarely looked rosier for a British aircraft producer. British Aerospace now plans to increase production of the 146 from 28 a year to 40 a year by 1990 and take on at least 200 more staff at their Woodford factory near Manchester.

It is now anxiously awaiting Government approval for launch aid for the next generation of Airbus A330s and A340s.

BA's quiet jet, page 25

Reagan widely praised for taking blame

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan's brief, courteous and firmly-delivered speech admitting mistakes in his Iran arms policy and accepting full responsibility was widely praised yesterday by congressmen, newspapers and politicians across the country.

Many said he had turned a corner towards political recovery and should now give a strong display of leadership in the coming weeks.

"Tonight's speech caps a comeback week for the President," Senator Robert Dole, the Republican minority leader in the Senate, said afterwards. "This is a sort of confession. Then comes activity, and then legislation."

Former Senator Gary Hart, the leading Democratic contender for the presidential nomination, said Mr Reagan had begun to face the problems which shook the foundations of his administration's policy. He said, however, that more than a speech was needed to restore public trust.

Others Democrats and presidential aspirants echoed this, saying Mr Reagan had to continue the clean-out in the White House and to get a firmer grip on his government.

"The speech is the beginning, and now it will depend on the President's following through," said Mr Thomas Foley, the house Democratic majority leader.

Mr Edmund Muskie, a former Secretary of State and one of the three members of the Tower Commission, said he was "quite pleased" with Mr Reagan's response. He said the country would now be watching his subsequent actions very closely.

In his 12-minute speech Mr

Reagan said he accepted the "honest, convincing and highly critical" findings of the Tower Commission and admitted that his Iran initiative had deteriorated into an arms-for-hostages deal. This was a mistake.

While not directly apologizing for the policy, he took "full responsibility" for what had occurred and for the first time acknowledged that the initiative conflicted with his policy of not bargaining with terrorists to win the freedom of hostages.

He said he had paid a price for his silence since the crisis broke in terms of the trust and confidence of the American people.

MOSCOW: Tass said yesterday that President Reagan's speech on the Iran arms scandal was full of contradictions and that the White House feared more damaging revelations could still emerge in the affair.

Speech, page 8
Leading article, page 13



Bill gives new rights to private flat tenants

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The Government yesterday published its Bill to strengthen the rights of tenants living in privately owned flats, giving them management powers and the right to buy the block from their landlord under certain circumstances.

Tenants will have the collective right of first refusal to buy a block where the landlord wishes to sell his interest. In addition, in some leasehold blocks where the landlord has failed in his duties, tenants will have the right to apply to a court collectively to buy him out.

The Landlord and Tenant (No 2) Bill implements the main findings of the Committee chaired by Mr Edward Nugge, QC, which investigated the problems of managing private flats.

The Bill, which will affect about 500,000 households in flats in England and Wales, also sets out a procedure for asking a court to appoint a manager where the block has been neglected.

It proposes a right for recognized tenants' associations to be consulted about the appointment of managing agents and stronger rights to information about the landlord's identity.

The Bill is not expected to add significantly to the costs of the courts, rent assessment panels or legal aid.

Mr Arthur Johnston, chairman of the Federation of Private Residents' Associations, said last night: "We welcome the provisions in the new Bill which will give leaseholders more independence in managing their own homes."

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INSIDE Hopes rise for accord on missiles

The Kremlin yesterday welcomed the new US proposals tabled in Geneva, raising hopes for an early superpower accord on eliminating medium-range missiles from Europe. But a spokesman warned the West against using the verification issue to delay an agreement.

Crowded jails

Conditions in six of Britain's largest prisons fall below basic standards of human decency because of chronic overcrowding, says a report published today.

TIMES SPORT Venables hint

Terry Venables, the Barcelona manager, is considering leaving the club at the end of this season.

Marsh future

Terry Marsh, the new International Boxing Federation light-welterweight champion, considers meeting Honeyghan and Camacho.

TIMES BUSINESS XJ6 hits result

Profits of the Jaguar car group were hit by the launch of the new XJ6 model last year, but it plans a £100m a year investment programme.

Shell record

Shell announced record profits, raised its half year dividend by a third and revealed that it has captured the largest slice of the market in the United States.

Portfolio Gold

The £2,000 prize in yesterday's Portfolio Gold competition - double the usual amount because there was no winner the previous day - was won by a reader from Cumbria. Details page 3. There is a further £24,000 to be won today. Portfolio list page 27.

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Many more facts, MPs told

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Royal Navy has been secretly keeping records on the racial background of its servicemen, according to information received by the Commons defence select committee.

So seriously does the committee regard the allegation, which came from a highly-placed military source, that it has written to Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, asking for clarification.

In evidence to the committee in January he insisted that the armed forces were "blind" to the racial background of their servicemen.

The MPs do not believe that Mr Younger deliberately misled them, but think that he may himself have been misled.

The Ministry of Defence is to introduce ethnic monitoring of all applicants to join the armed forces from next month.

Written evidence supplied to the committee by the ministry has revealed that the Army imposed a limit of two, later three, per cent on the number of coloured people in its units throughout the 1960s.

The limit was one per cent higher for the three medical corps, but coloured recruits were excluded altogether from the Household Cavalry, Foot Guards, Highland and Lowland Brigades, the Military Provost Staff Corps and the Intelligence Corps.

Ridley admits rate errors of £10m

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

Six London boroughs are to receive £10 million in grants from the Government this year for looking after roads which do not exist, it was revealed last night.

Meanwhile, eight other authorities in the capital are to be deprived of a similar sum for maintaining the very highways for which the other councils are being paid.

The financial mix-up, which flows from a huge error by a faceless mandarin in the Department of the Environment following the abolition of the Greater London Council, was confirmed in a Commons statement by a red-faced Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, following a High Court ruling last week.

Due to the administrative mistake, six councils in 1986-7 Greenwhich, Tower Hamlets, Lewisham, Newham, Islington, and Hackney were wrongly given £12 million for looking after roads which are not in their areas.

Mr Ridley attempted to use a power he believed he possessed under the 1986 Local Government Act to belatedly correct the error. But Greenwhich Council, which gained £3.8 million from the mix-up and was the biggest beneficiary, successfully challenged his move when a High Court judge ruled the minister did not have the power to correct his department's mistake.

To make matters worse Mr Ridley had, in January, made rate support grant allocations to London boroughs on the assumption that the error was corrected.

But following the High Court verdict, Mr Ridley was forced to tell MPs yesterday he had amended the grant allocations for 1987-8 - although several councils have set their rates based on his initial cash allocations.

Mr Ridley told the Commons he is appealing against the Greenwhich ruling.

Parliament, page 4
Frank Johnson, page 12

Piggott VAT summons

Lester Piggott, the racehorse trainer and former champion jockey, was yesterday served with a summons by Customs and Excise accusing him of VAT fraud over a period of nearly six years (Our Crime Reporter writes).

Mr Piggott, aged 51, and his company, L.K. Piggott Ltd, are said to have failed to account for VAT payments that include retaining fees, percentage prize monies and bloodstock transactions.

No financial figure was mentioned in the summons which comes four months after Mr Piggott was accused of tax irregularities.

The VAT summons is returnable at Newmarket Magistrates Court on March 19.

Footpath perils
Paving the way for a revolt

By Alan Hamilton

To the dangerous practices of smoking, drinking, living near nuclear power stations, jogging, flying in helicopters, eating additive-packed fried sausages, and sex, must now be added the innocent act of walking.

As many as three million people a year trip or fall on damaged pavements, and an estimated half million of them need medical treatment - which means that the pedestrian is statistically far safer walking down the middle of the road.

The figures are produced in a survey by the National Consumer Council published today, which tears several strips off local authorities for allowing sidewalks to deteriorate into assault courses and

urges pedestrians to become more militant.

A sample survey of over 2,000 pedestrians mentioned cracked or uneven pavements as the principal hazard, closely followed by dog dirt and uncleaned snow, ice or leaves. Walking was also interrupted by an assorted clutter of rubbish, scaffolding, parked cars, the digging of holes, and people riding bicycles.

Approximately one person in five has a pavement accident each year, usually a trip or fall, but there are also those who walk into scaffolding, overhanging trees, or other obstructions.

Although most pavement accidents are minor, about 7 per cent of them lead to medical treatment, and al-

most a quarter of the victims damage clothes or belongings. By comparison, pedestrians killed or injured in collisions with motor vehicles number a mere 64,000, according to official statistics which are thought to be on the low side.

Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the NCC, said yesterday: "Pedestrians' interests are put below those of car drivers, bus users or even air passengers."

Pedestrians themselves appear partly to blame for being insufficiently militant. In short, walkers of the world unite: you have nothing to lose but your spurs.

What's Wrong With Walking? (National Consumer Council and HMSO: £4.95).

Second class goes as rail standards rise

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The days of the second class rail ticket are numbered. With the introduction of the new timetables in May second class will be phased out.

Not that everyone will be travelling first class after that, but second class will be renamed "standard" as soon as stocks of tickets and other material are exhausted.

British Rail said yesterday that it felt improvements in rolling stock had taken it out of the second class category, and standard class was more appropriate.

The national railway watchdog, the Central Transport Consultative Committee, said it was sensible to rename the second class, because for many services there was only one class available.

Not everyone would agree about the improvements in rolling stock. In its annual report the Transport Users Consultative Committee for North-east England said that the new Sprinters trains were an acceptable replacement.

But in the lightweight Pacers the "seating was of very poor quality, being hard and low-backed", and because the trains were limited to two cars, they were often over-crowded.

Three classes were normal in the early years of the railway system, but between 1876 and 1938 second class was gradually abolished.

In 1956 it was felt that it was not appropriate to have a first and third class but no second class, so the third class was re-designated as the second class.

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NEWS SUMMARY

Heat scan on dynamite ship

Explosives experts adopted a wary approach to the ship, *Hornstrand*, off Falmouth yesterday.

The Danish coaster, which had been adrift in the Channel for 24 hours with a cargo of 400 tons of dynamite, was scanned with infra-red heat detecting equipment from a dinghy 100 yards away.

The vessel had been towed at the end of a 1,000 metre cable by the *Typhoon*, a salvage tug belonging to Wismar, the Dutch salvage experts, with two of the tug's crew on board.

Commander David Elliot, a local coastguard controller, said a decision on boarding the ship would be made today.

Sinking the ship had not been discussed, but it would not be allowed into Falmouth harbour until it was safe.

Hotel for drugs jury

The jury in the Boy George drugs conspiracy trial has been sent to an hotel for the night after failing to reach a majority verdict after five hours and 25 minutes of deliberation.

Steven Luben, aged 36, and Diane Feiner, aged 35, both of Westbourne Terrace, Paddington, west London, deny conspiracy to supply Boy George, the singer, and others with heroin.

Miss Feiner, who also denies conspiring with Mr Luben to supply cocaine, has been kept in custody overnight. Throughout the trial at Knightsbridge Crown Court she had been on £15,000 bail.

Wanted posters Murder charges

Wanted posters will appear today throughout Shaw, near Oldham, to trap a gang who robbed, sexually assaulted, then punched and kicked to death a retired headmistress, aged 92, and her infirm 81-year-old sister in their house in Beal Lane.

Every large shop and office will display police posters detailing the horrific murders of the spinster, Susan and Florence Egerton. A retired businessman who wishes to remain anonymous has offered a £1,000 reward.

Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Meningitis outbreak

More than 600 naval ratings and other personnel at a base near Plymouth have been found to be carrying a form of meningitis.

All 2,500 staff and trainees at HMS Raleigh naval training base, Torpoint, have undergone blood tests and received vaccinations. Health officials said yesterday that the strain of the disease responds completely to vaccination. All new recruits would be vaccinated.

Brian Cairns, aged three months, whose parents live in Army barracks at Henswood, near Galashburgh, has died in Lincoln county hospital after contracting meningitis. It was disclosed yesterday. A hundred children at the base are being vaccinated.

MP sues Guardian

Mr John Browne (right), the Winchester Conservative MP, at the centre of a £175,000 divorce settlement dispute, has launched a High Court libel action against *The Guardian*, and its editor Mr Peter Preston, over a report last month on statements he made about his financial affairs.

Committal proceedings against his ex-wife, Mrs Elizabeth Browne, of Chelsea, south-west London, for failing to pay a £10,000 instalment will be shelved pending her appeal against the settlement.



Court secrecy protest

Journalists at the Central Criminal Court have protested to Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Lord Chancellor, over a senior judge's decision this week to hear part of a big criminal case "in secret".

The Recorder of London, Sir James Miskin, heard legal arguments by defence and prosecution lawyers in camera — excluding both the press and public from his court.

Jurors are always sent out during such legal discussions, but the press has always remained.

The Central Criminal Court Journalists' Association has written to Lord Hailsham, saying it is concerned that "justice behind closed doors" could become a dangerous trend. The journalists have made similar complaints in recent years.

Labour's plan for tackling City fraud

By Robin Oakley Political Editor

Under a Labour government the City would face regulation by an independent statutory commission with far wider powers than the Securities and Investment Board set up by the Conservative government for the City's self-regulation.

The Labour body would be given additional powers to cover Lloyd's and also to tackle insider dealing, specifically excluded from the remit of the SIB.

It would also be given responsibility for the work of the Takeover Panel.

The plans were published yesterday in a document called *Making the City Safe*.

As well as confirming the details revealed in *The Times* last week on Labour's plans for new rules on takeovers and mergers, it sets out proposals to strengthen the powers and scope of the SIB.

Under a Labour government it would be re-established as a public agency responsible through ministers to Parliament. It would be publicly funded, although Labour would continue to levy the City for a contribution to the costs. Its membership would be changed to ensure that a majority are not current practitioners in the City.

The essential difference in its powers would be that the reformed SIB would have the unqualified right to instruct the self-regulating organizations to withdraw a company's licence to trade or to withdraw authorization for a new firm.

A Labour government would transfer to the SIB, once it became a public agency, the remaining regulatory powers of the Department of Trade and Industry, including its investigative powers into insider dealing.

In a section headed "Cooling Takeover Fever", the document confirms that Labour will scrap the Tebbit formula which limits referrals to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to the solitary grounds of market share.

Labour Secretary of State for Trade would make referrals on grounds of employment security, impact on trade performance and retention of technology.

Introducing the document yesterday, Mr Robin Cook, Labour's trade spokesman, said that there was more fraud and less order in the City than before.

Board and lodging test a bonus for unemployed

By David Sapsted

The Government survived two fundamental challenges to its controversial board and lodging allowances in the Court of Appeal yesterday but faced the prospect of a £5 million pay-out to the unemployed after losing a third case.

As a result of the defeat, an estimated 20,000 people receiving the so-called "Costa del Dole" allowances in 1984-85 will each be entitled to back payments averaging £250.

However, victory in the other two cases, one backed by the Labour-controlled London borough of Camden, and the other brought by a Down's syndrome sufferer, meant that the Government staved off a challenge which could have cost more than £20 million.

Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Parker and Lord Justice Mustill rejected the appeal brought by Camden council and Miss Beverly Nelson, a single mother of two, of Brixton, south London, which sought to have Department of Health and Social Security rules introduced in 1985 declared illegal because they claimed the papers had not been properly laid before Parliament.

Under the regulations, bed and breakfast allowances were limited to £70 a week in London and between £45-55 a week elsewhere in Britain.

Camden, which said the rules were costing it £30,000 a week in top-up payments, planned to present the Government with a £2 million bill if it won the appeal. The council argued that the regulations were invalid because the booklet containing details of the payments had not been laid before Parliament by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Health and Social Services.

However, the judges ruled that the booklet did not form part of the regulations and, therefore, did not have to be presented to Parliament. Dismissing the appeal, they ordered the appellants to pay costs and refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

They also rejected an appeal by Miss Amanda Kilburn, aged 22, a Down's syndrome sufferer, of Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, that Mr Fowler had no power to make rule changes which resulted in a disabled person's attendance allowance being counted as income.

Defeat for the Government came in an appeal by Mr Fowler against an earlier High Court ruling over its "freeze regulation", introduced late in 1984 amid concern over the spiralling cost of board and lodging payments.

The Government stepped in with the regulation in November 1984, freezing all rates of payment.

A High Court judge had ruled that Mr Fowler did not have the power to make general regulations affecting a large number of people, only questions concerning individuals. The Court of Appeal dismissed the Government's appeal.

The result of the decision is likely to prove an administrative headache for the DHSS, which will have to pay out the difference.

Law Report, page 15

Thatcher defends the Army spending record

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister last night defended the Government's record on the Army after the public decision of Lord Morpeth to resign his commission in protest at current defence policies.

The letter to *The Times* the previous day from Lord Morpeth, a Liberal Party member who hopes to become a parliamentary candidate, was raised with the Prime Minister in the Commons.

In his letter, Lord Morpeth stated that the present policy was having damaging consequences on training, equipment, manning and conditions of service in the Regular Army, and that the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force were in a similar position.

Mr Michael Mates, Conservative chairman of the select committee on defence, told the Commons that increased resources in the past seven years had enabled the Army to continue to improve its professionalism.

He said: "Anybody who puts the defence of the country in the hands of any opposition party wants his head examined."

Mr Thatcher said that the Government had spent £2,000 million more in real terms in the Army than in its 1978-79 level. It had provided tanks, personnel carriers, missiles and communications equipment and had always fully implemented service pay reports.

Parliament, page 4



A horse from The King's Troop took a liking to a bouquet carried by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother when she paid a visit to the Royal Horse Artillery in London yesterday.

Efficiency drive for car tests

By Rodney Cowton Transport Correspondent

The Government is to consider privatizing the driving test as part of an efficiency review.

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday that although he had no intention of reducing standards, it is believed that shorter waiting lists might increase the pass rate above the present 48.08 per cent. Waiting time averages 15 weeks.

The Department of Transport said about two million car driver tests are carried out a year and at a cost of just over £27 million. There are more than 1,600 examiners and supervisors based at 318 full-time test centres and 116 part-time centres.

The idea of privatization was criticized by the Automobile Association: "The integrity of the British driving test is among the highest in the world. Privatization could impose very severe quality control problems, and even open the test to the risk of corruption."

Deaths in road accidents rose by 3 per cent to 1,400 in the third quarter of 1986, compared with 1985, according to official figures released yesterday. That compared with 1,385 deaths in the same period of 1985, a fall of 9 per cent compared with 1984.

However, the number of serious injuries at 18,000 was 9 per cent lower and the number of slight injuries fell by 3 per cent. Traffic increased by 2 per cent so that the casualty rate per mile travelled fell by 6 per cent.

New Lotus will be built in Britain

By Daniel Ward Motor Industry Correspondent

New car sales were unexpectedly buoyant in February with registrations running almost 10 per cent higher than in 1986. For the second successive month exports accounted for less than half of car sales as Ford and Vauxhall sold 18,000 more British-built cars than a year ago.

Ford was the best seller, accounting for 27 per cent of the market, followed by Austin Rover with 16.9 per cent.

Although Austin Rover and Vauxhall saw their market shares fall slightly on February last year, they will be relieved to have halted the sales slide they both suffered in the second half of 1986.

Germany as originally planned, will save £5 million annually.

The new advanced engine, codenamed 14, was to have been built at Ford's plant in Cologne, but a big improvement in productivity by workers at the diesel engine plant at Dagenham forced executives to reassess which location would receive the £157 million investment.

Mr Bill Hayden, vice president of manufacturing for Ford Europe, said the British and West German unions had vied with each other to build the new engine fastest to secure the massive investment project. It could be built quickest in Germany, but much lower labour costs in Britain meant that Dagenham was chosen.

Its cost advantage has more than doubled in the past year as the German mark has strengthened against the pound.

Mr Mike Kimberley, the deputy chairman and chief executive of Group Lotus, said: "The decision was influenced by two factors: the higher levels of productivity achievable at Hethel and that General Motors has agreed to provide additional funding in order to expand the factory in Norfolk."

He said that a significant increase in the £54 million five-year investment plan would be needed to finance the plant, which will be building 3,000 M100 sports cars a year by 1992.

Ford's decision to build a new car engine for the 1990s in Britain, rather than in West

Tories in rebellion on rates reform

By Our Political Staff

Conservative Party moderates yesterday started ministers by flouting opposition one of the central planks of the recent general election manifesto, the Government's chosen plans for abolition of the rates.

The rebellion came as ministers were ruling out a May general election because it would mean sacrificing the reform of the Scottish voting system.

The earliest the Bill is expected to clear Parliament is May 7, previously one of the favourite dates for the election because it coincides with the local council elections. But, if it is not held up in the House of Lords, it should receive Royal Assent in time for a June general election.

The Tory Reform Group, which is backed by five senior Cabinet ministers, said in a memorandum that the new tax would undermine local self-government while not achieving the required financial and political accountability.

The salvo comes as several Conservative MPs express reservations about the speed at which the Government is moving to introduce its reforms.

Last week it announced that the abolition of domestic rates in Scotland was to take place in one stage in April 1989 rather than over a three-year period as previously proposed.

The reform group memorandum, written by Mr Chris Mockler, says that under the community charge the proper basis of local tax-borne services paid for by local taxation will fall from 51 per cent to a mere 23 per cent.

The proposal for a national non-domestic rate will mean that local business will become more remote from local government. It would also be morally wrong to impose the full community charge on people with low incomes.

"Conservatism is also about caring for those in need. Imposing a community charge of, say £300 per annum a person, would cost a pensioner, whose only income was their pension... they would be worse off by the full £600. It would be equivalent to cutting their pensions by 19 per cent."

The memorandum proposes that the Government should not be rushed into fundamental changes in England and Wales. It should review the situation after the election and, taking into account Scotland's experience, consider widening the local tax base to include a reduced rate and local income and spending taxes.

Reforming local government finance: *Alternatives to the community charge* (TLC, Gayfer House, Gayfer Street, London SW1 P 3HP).

Alliance irons out differences

By Our Chief Political Correspondent

Differences of emphasis between the SDP and Liberal parties over the desirability of holding a national referendum on the introduction of proportional representation are being resolved in discussions between the two party leaders.

Senior Liberals, who have feared that Dr David Owen's strong support for a referendum might be seen as a weakening of the commitment to change, are now suggesting that provision for a referendum should be built into the Bill for which the Alliance would be pushing in negotiations with other parties if the election results in a hung parliament.

The referendum, however, would apply only to parliamentary elections.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, has said he wants immediate legislation on proportional representation, but is prepared to accept a two-stage process. He is pressing for the swift introduction of PR for local government and the European parliament.

Police on alert for rally over man's death

Police leave in Wolverhampton has been cancelled tomorrow in anticipation of a march and rally over the death of a man who died in a struggle with two officers.

Organizers of the rally in the West Midlands town are expecting up to 30,000 people to take part. They will call for an independent inquiry into the death of Mr Clinton McCurbin, aged 24, who was of Afro-Caribbean descent.

Police have forbidden marchers to take a route past the shop where Mr McCurbin died.

The march organizers said that the march would be peaceful but Mr John Mellor, a local politician, called for it to be banned.

Unionists' new threat of unrest

By Richard Ford

The Unionist leadership in Northern Ireland said yesterday that it would intensify the civil disobedience campaign after the Government rejected demands for a referendum on the Anglo-Irish agreement.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was bitterly criticized by "loyalist" leaders. The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, accused him of hurling the crown into the gutter and of "Hitlerism" and "Stalinism" in running the North.

Mr Paisley said he felt certain that the Ulster people had the stomach for the fight, but declined to say what form it might take.

It is expected that loyalists will be urged to withhold payment of rates, road tax and television licences as part of the campaign, although it is not clear whether Mr Paisley's suggestion that they should drive on the wrong side of the road will be adopted.

Meanwhile Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Unionist Party, said he believed that the propaganda campaign should be intensified in Great Britain as there was growing sympathy for the position of Ulster's loyalists.

Toughen law to protect rape victims, says Press Council

By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

A tougher law to protect the anonymity of rape victims from the time of the attack is called for by the Press Council today in its report on coverage of the vicarage rape case.

The council, which censures two newspapers and criticizes three others in its handling of the case, says present proposals to protect rape victims do not go far enough and would still allow publication of much of the identifying material in the vicarage case.

The Government intends to ban publication of details which could lead to a victim being identified from the time an attacker is accused. Instead, the Press Council says, the ban should run from the time of the offence.

The council also calls for urgent action by newspaper editors, television, radio, and police to agree to ways to prevent "jigsaw puzzle identification" where rape victims are identified because different newspapers or broadcasters publish differing details of a case.

The council's comments are made just days before MPs are to debate government proposals in the Criminal Justice Bill to give rape victims greater protection against being identified.

These proposals would still enable much of the material which led to the "early victim identification" of the vicarage rape victim to be published legally.

The proposals would, however, prevent publication of a victim's name, address or photograph, even before anyone has been accused.

But the Press Council says publication of any likeness of a victim, not just her photograph, should be prevented.

The council's report censures *The Sun* for publishing a picture of the rape victim, and the *News of the World* for printing an artist's impression of the scene inside the vicarage. *The Guardian*, *The Times* and *Sunday Today* are also criticized.

The attack, which led to the council inquiry, took place in a west London vicarage on Thursday, March 6, 1986. A young girl was raped, and a young man and a vicar assaulted by three men who were convicted last month and jailed.

The council says that in spite of a long-standing convention that newspapers do not identify rape victims and the law's prohibition after a certain stage, "progressive, creeping and constructive identification" by the Press began almost at once.

The press coverage was not in breach of the law. The Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1976 forbids publication of any matter likely to lead to the identification of a woman complaining of rape, but only after someone has been accused. It also forbids identification of a man charged with rape until he is convicted.

Newspapers in this case were bound by either prohibition until seven days after the crime, when two men were charged with rape.

The Sun

The incident which provoked "strong public criticism" and the largest number of complaints and protests to the Press Council was publication of the woman victim's picture by *The Sun*, the report says.

Four days after the attack this front view full-length photograph, showing the victim leaving church the day before, occupied three full columns on the front page.

Her eyes were masked by a black line and label and the story identified her but did not name her; described her as a pretty, dark-haired girl and identified the vicar's church and their relationship.

Letters of protest to the council came from 22 people, including MPs and a police officer.

The victim's brother, in a letter to the council, said the photograph, with just the eyes blotted out, left no doubt as to identity. *The Sun's* coverage throughout had been "deeply distressing".

Mr Kenneth Donlan, *The Sun* managing editor, said the picture had not identified the victim and did not break the law. *The Sun* did not think it was tasteless. It was published to show the victim's "ordinary girl-next-door qualities" and it was never intended to upset.

The council says it can find "no justification for the paper either taking the photograph or publishing it" and censures it for both.

"They were a gross breach of proper conduct by a newspaper", it says.

News of the World

The *News of the World* is also censured for what the council calls a "crude and salacious" picture across four columns.

The newspaper described this as an artist's impression "of the horror scene as the Spiderman drags the screaming girl towards the bedroom" while his "bug accomplices" battered the two men senseless with the vicar's crutches but.

A woman complained that the picture appeared more of a sop to the "salacious instincts of readers than any real attempt to inform, and reminded her of voyeuristic soft porn."

Mr David Montgomery, the editor, said he felt his paper's coverage of the case to be totally responsible and there was no need to justify it.

The Guardian

One specific complaint was over an article on *The Guardian's* media page.

This reprinted tabloid news paper headlines giving the rape victim's relationship with one of the other victims of the attack, and also criticized a short report in *The Times* that said she had been raped about 100 yards from the home of a well-known politician, who was named.

The complaint was that as *The Guardian* had itself reported in a two paragraph story the vicar's name, the vicarage and that a woman had been raped; anyone reading both items could deduce the rape victim's identity.

Mr Peter Preston, the editor, told the council he did not see the item about *The Times* until it was printed and published because that page was set in Manchester.

The council says *The Guardian's* very short and unsensational story went further towards identification than was desirable and probably further than the editor would have wished.

It criticizes its conduct "arising out of defective communication between its London and Manchester offices."

The Times

The coverage by *The Times* was "broadly unexceptional" except for the reference to a politician's address nearby which gave "a strong clue" about identity, the council says.

One reader however complained that a "well intentioned serious feature article" described precisely the relationship of the rape victim to the vicar, whom it named, allowing the victim's identity to be inferred.

The council says it was true, as Mr Michael Hoy, the managing editor, told both the council and the complainant, that by the time the article was published "sadly" the vicar's identity and his relationship to the victim were well known.

It "nevertheless finds that *The Times* was at fault."

Today

Another complaint was over *Today's* coverage of a service at the vicar's church which named the vicar, identified the parish, and said how he coped with the limitations imposed on him by police inquiries and rules of confidentiality in rape cases.

A reader said this was a "trick of avoiding the law" revealing the victim's identity. But the council, dismissing the complaint, points out, as the editor had made clear, that the vicar by then had identified himself in a public statement.

But *Today's* "carefully considered" decision to avoid stating the victim's relationship to each other was not followed in *Sunday Today*. There the vicar was named on one page and a leading article on another gave the relationship. The Press Council finds the newspaper at fault.

West London Rape Inquiry, The Press Council, 1 Salisbury Square, London EC4Y 8AE.

...the message
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Aids message from the Government is 'not tough enough'

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The Government's public campaign on Aids is not as successful as it seems, according to a Gallup opinion poll. Most people who read the leaflet sent to every household found it informative and easy to understand. But, like the television advertisements on Aids, they felt the message was not blunt enough.

The results of the poll were broadcast on the BBC2 Newsnight programme last night.

They included majority views in favour of free contraceptives and of laws to restrict prostitutes, but only 46 per cent support for free needles to drug addicts.

Nine out of 10 people want blood tests for Aids infection to be made available to everybody on demand, and want the Government to introduce screening for the virus.

Two out of three said that they would like an Aids blood test if it was free and confidential. Sixty-two per cent thought blood tests should be compulsory for everyone.

Three out of four would support a law restricting Aids carriers from having sexual intercourse with other people without telling them, the survey found.

Young, single men and women aged between 16 and 24 see themselves most at risk from Aids, but people over 65

are more likely to be misinformed about how Aids is caught, according to the survey.

Seven out of 10 people who received the government leaflet read it completely. "Virtually no one complained that it was too explicit or offensive, in fact people complained it was not explicit enough," Mr Gordon Heald, managing director of Gallup said.

Reactions to the two television advertisements, which featured images of a tombstone or an iceberg, were less favourable. Fifty one per cent thought the tombstone message was "poor" and only 47 per cent considered the iceberg film "good".

The survey included interviews with 1,115 people aged 16 and over at 120 sampling points.

Some doctors may be reported to the General Medical Council because of alleged discrimination against Aids victims, officials of a charity said yesterday.

A woman drug addict with the disease cut her wrists after her doctor refused to see her, and another doctor refused to arrange for the removal of the body of an Aids patient from the home where he died, the Terrence Higgins Trust said.

The woman, from Dundee, claimed that her GP told her: "You had better go off and cut your wrists because I am not going to help," according to a trust spokesman.

"The patient went away and did just that," he said. The woman had not died but remained "emotionally scarred," he said.

Mr Tony Whitehead, chairman of the trust's board of directors, said it was considering reporting some doctors to the GMC for disciplinary action.

"We want a test case," he said.

The new anti-Aids drug, Zidovudine (AZT), could cost the National Health Service more than £1 million next year if given to all sufferers likely to benefit from it.

The drug's manufacturers, Wellcome, have been given government permission to market the drug, which is not a cure but is regarded as the most effective treatment available to control severe effects of the disease.

It is likely to be used only by hospital specialists and will probably not be available on prescription from general practitioners, because of the need to monitor its effectiveness and its side-effects.

A cure for Aids may be available by the 1990s, according to a survey of American scientists. But almost a third of those involved in Aids research predicted that there would be more than a million victims in the United States by the year 2000.

The survey, conducted by Louis Harris and Associates, was taken among 227 biomedical researchers.



Mr Eric Lobb, royal bootmaker, with some of the 20,000 lasts held in store for customers (Photograph: Chris Harris).

French to honour bootmaker

By Robin Young

Mr Eric Lobb, the royal bootmaker, who recently celebrated his eightieth birthday, is to receive an international French award on Monday.

He was named Personnalité de l'Année (Personality of the Year) by a jury of French journalists and connoisseurs presided over by M Leo Sennegon.

Mr Lobb, who is only the second Englishman to have been so honoured in the category, Craftsmen of the World, was nominated for the award by his predecessor, Mr Hardy Amies, the fashion designer.

The two have not met, although Mr Amies is among 30,000 customers who have hand-made lasts in store at the Lobb shop in St James's, Piccadilly.

Customers are contacted every 15 years to ensure that they want their lasts to be kept, although the life of a pair of Lobb boots is claimed to extend to 40 years.

Lobb holds three royal warrants, and has shod customers as varied as Enrico Caruso, Frank Sinatra, Guy Burgess and one of the Great Train Robbers.

Mr Lobb, the third generation of his family to manage the business, is the first to admit he cannot make boots.

"I came into the company by accident, and I make no secret of the fact that I am the only Lobb in the concern who does not know what he is doing," he said.

Equality ruling Cook's pay 'worth more' says court

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A canteen cook from Birkenhead, Merseyside, lost her fight in the Court of Appeal yesterday for equal pay with men employed as painters and joiners at the same shipyard.

The judges' ruling in the test case brought by Miss Julie Haywood against Cannon Laird shipbuilders (now Vickers Shipbuilding Engineering Ltd) was immediately described by the Equal Opportunities Commission as a "blow" for the rights of women under the equal pay laws.

The commission, which backed Miss Haywood in her case, said it would be considering whether to go to the House of Lords to ask for leave to appeal. Yesterday the Court of Appeal judges refused them that leave.

Miss Haywood's case was the first test case of the Government's changes to the equal pay laws which allow women to claim the same pay as men doing totally different but equally skilled and demanding jobs.

She had claimed her job was as skilled as the work done by the men who fit wooden bulkheads to ships or paint oil rigs.

The Court of Appeal judges yesterday upheld a ruling of the Employment Appeal Tribunal decision last year that although Miss Haywood, aged 27, had a lower annual salary

Poll puts Wardair in top flight

By Robin Young

Wardair, Cathay Pacific, Swissair and Singapore Airlines are the world's best airlines, according to nearly 15,000 readers of *Holiday* magazine.

The results of the survey in the March issue published today suggest that British Airways, rather than being "the world's favourite airline", ranks at the bottom of the second division, below several other British airlines which, in order of popularity, are British Midland, Air Europe, Orion, British Caledonian and Virgin.

Wardair, the Canadian charter airline, was rated best by readers both for catering (97 per cent thought the food excellent or good) and for service and helpfulness (94 per cent rated these excellent or good). Swissair was thought the most comfortable airline, and British Island, a UK charter company using small aircraft, the least comfortable.

In a survey of ferry services, to which 8,000 readers replied, the magazine reports that Hoverspeed and Townsend Thoresen were favourites for short crossings. The best for crossings longer than five hours was Olau Line's Shearwater-Vlissingen service, with DFDS highly rated for its Scandinavian and German services. Sealink was the lowest rated overall, with B & I Line, operating services to Ireland, doing only slightly better.

Portfolio Gold - A chance for second holiday

One reader won yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £2,000, there having been no winner the previous day.

Mr John Burns, aged 66, who is a retired builders' agent living in Cumbria, said he had played Portfolio Gold since its inception, although he never expected to win.

Mr Burns said: "I still cannot believe I have won. I cannot say how I am going to spend the money until I actually get it. We have already booked a holiday, although it's always possible we could take another one."

Readers who wish to play Portfolio Gold can obtain a card by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to: Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn.

Squires to appeal on court ban

Dorothy Squires, the singer, wept at the High Court in London yesterday after being told by a judge that she can mount no more court actions without permission of the High Court.

After a ruling by Mr Justice Mann that she should be declared a "vexatious litigant", she promised to fight the decision in the Court of Appeal, House of Lords and the European Court of Justice.

The court move against Miss Squires is rare. It was made by the Attorney General, who had been named along with the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Island Revenue in her latest action.

Mr Justice Mann was told that Miss Squires had started 20 court actions since 1982 and that nine have so far been dismissed.

The judge said: "I have no doubt that she has habitually, persistently and without any reasonable grounds, initiated vexatious civil proceedings."

Miss Squires shouted: "This is not the end; it is the beginning. I am going to get my fans in their thousands and march down Whitehall."

Outside court afterwards she wept and said: "It's a joke to say I have got a voracious appetite for litigation. I don't want to be a litigant. I just want to be a singer. That's my job to be a singer. That's my job to be a singer."

During the case the judge had told that among the "multitude of actions" she had brought had been claims alleging defamation, assault, conspiracy, piracy of her autobiography and fraudulent misrepresentation.

The actions had been against publishers, newspapers and solicitors, among others. She had won her first case and successfully defended another.

Evidence over MP disputed

The widow of Liberal MP David Penhaligon yesterday dismissed as "speculation" reports that her husband was not wearing a seat belt when he died in a car crash three days before Christmas.

Mrs Annette Penhaligon spoke after an inquest jury at Truro returned an 8-2 majority verdict of accidental death on her husband.

There was evidence at the hearing that Mr Penhaligon was not wearing a seat belt.

But after the verdict, Mrs Penhaligon, who did not attend the inquest, issued a statement through her solicitor, Mr Christopher Thomas, in which she said: "Mrs Penhaligon regrets that certain reports on the inquest into the death of her late husband have concentrated on speculation as to whether he was wearing a seat belt - a matter on which there is no direct evidence - and have omitted to mention a matter on which the evidence was undisputed, namely that at the time of the impact, her late husband was driving on his correct side of the road."

"The question of a claim on behalf of the estate of the late Mr Penhaligon is under active consideration."

Mr Penhaligon, MP for Truro, voted for the seat belt legislation which was introduced on January 31, 1983.

He was driving to St Austell when a Ford transit van skidded on black ice while negotiating a bend and hit Mr Penhaligon's car.

The driver of the van, Mr Tony Barry, aged 39, of Boscoppa, St Austell, broke a leg.

No criminal proceedings are pending against him but civil proceedings are expected.

Dr Robert Marshall, a pathologist, told the inquest that Mr Penhaligon, aged 42, had "the classic injuries of someone not wearing a seat belt."

Lawyers split over court video links

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lawyers are divided on the merits of government proposals for video questioning in child abuse cases after the first live demonstration of a "trial" by video link attended by more than 150 judges and lawyers.

Judges including the law lord, Lord Ackner, the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, the Director of Public Prosecutions, QC, and Bar leaders including the chairman, Mr Peter Scott, QC, crowded the parliament chamber in the latter Temple to watch the new equipment in action.

Video links, using equipment developed by the American company, Datapoint, were set up with an adjoining room and barristers staged a mock trial in which a girl aged 14 was cross-examined about an alleged attack and robbery in the street.

But although there was general backing for the Government to proceed with a pilot scheme, several barristers were worried about the use of video links in child abuse cases although its use for taking evidence from adult witnesses abroad was less controversial.

Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, leader of the Northern Eastern circuit, who acted out the role of prosecuting counsel, said he had felt "at a real disadvantage" trying to question what was just a face on the screen.

"There is no doubt that the immediacy, the personal chemistry, is lost," he said.

"The immediate physical presence of a witness is vital. Putting aside the psyche of the child, one also has to think of the interest of the accused."

"This is the greatest occasion in anyone's life, the liberty of the subject is at stake and you can so ease the tension that there is a danger of the whole thing becoming a

Thief got job watching out for crime

A burglar who won a job on a government-backed crime-watch scheme had kept quiet about his record, the organizers said yesterday when he was jailed for three years at Teesside Crown Court for robbing a shop of £63 in takings during working hours.

William McCann, aged 32, of Laxey Road, Hartlepool, received £57 a week for five months on the Watch Patrol community programme in Hartlepool, Cleveland.

McCann, recruited to keep a daytime eye on the town to deter crime, had eight convictions for burglary.

Political pressure on arts attacked

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

The arts are being subjected to growing political and commercial pressure through a severe weakening of the Arts Council, according to Sir Peter Hall, director of the National Theatre.

"The philistines are on the march, they are scenting blood again," he told an international conference on arts funding yesterday.

The main victim was the "arms-length" principle, under which the Arts Council acts as a conduit for government funds to the arts.

"What has happened over the past 10 years is a dismal and sorry tale."

In 1965, he had come under government pressure to abandon a play for the Royal Shakespeare Company which was critical of American involvement in Vietnam.

The play went ahead, but Lord Avon, then president of the RSC, was forced to resign.

The private sector also exerted pressure through its sponsorship of the arts, he said.

Sir Peter gave a warning that within a decade, national cultures could be wiped out by "the eternal plastic soap opera" beamed from Hollywood by satellite - and that was why politicians should be kept out of the arts.

Fire chiefs in race case win BBC damages

Two senior fire officers accused of racial prejudice by the BBC won "substantial" undisclosed libel damages in the High Court yesterday.

Mr John Warden, the former Lancashire fire chief, and Mr James Watson, his successor, were accused in two Radio 4 *Checkpoint* programmes in January and June 1982 of dismissing a coloured fireman "for a mere triviality".

An industrial tribunal ruled that the dismissal had not been influenced by racial discrimination, but the second programme ignored those findings.

£1.1m grant boost for the North-east

By Peter Davenport

Record funding for an organization formed to regenerate the depressed areas of the North-east and Cumbria was announced by the Government yesterday.

More than £1.1 million is to go to the newly-formed North-east Development Company, a "unique" organization backed by 160 leading businesses, trade unions and local authorities.

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said that funds are also available for other regions which emulate the company, with self-help schemes involving wide-scale local support.

He said the company, which covers a region where unemployment averages 21 per cent, was "unique" in England and the Government was monitoring its progress.

The Government has been impressed by the degree of local co-operation, including the raising of £400,000 from the private sector and local authorities to help its budget.

The company, which is taking over the role and staff of the North of England Development Council, wants to attract more successful firms from overseas, such as Nissan at Sunderland and Komatsu at Birtley, Tyne and Wear, to replace the vanishing traditional industries such as shipbuilding and heavy engineering.

It aims to alter the image of the North-east in the City, abroad, throughout the UK and among its own inhabitants.

A spokesman for the company said: "We are very pleased with the funding. We have received the lion's share, now we have to go out and justify it."

There are five regional organizations in England to promote investment in their areas. The other four also received increased cash allocations yesterday.

They are the Yorkshire and Humberside Development Association, which received £600,000, inward Ltd (North-west), £380,000, West Midlands Industrial Development Association, £320,000, and the Devon and Cornwall Development Bureau, £320,000.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE:

<p>08.00 Filling car at petrol station. Then drive 50 miles to cancelled meeting!</p> <p>10.00 Miss valuable new contact.</p> <p>11.45 Hurry through traffic for lunch appointment.</p> <p>13.00 Arrive for lunch. No one else does.</p> <p>14.15 Back at the office to find I've missed meeting with J.R. and C.J. Scribbled note to collect kids, doesn't say where from.</p> <p>19.00 Weary detour, kids already left. Late for dinner. Wife raises eyebrows. Guests look disapproving. WHAT A DAY!</p>	<p>08.00 Filling car at petrol station. Radiopager alerts me to call office. Meeting cancelled, but a new lead to follow up.</p> <p>10.00 At new client's office, alerted to change of lunch plans.</p> <p>11.45 Alert to call office. Stocks of latest range now arrived!</p> <p>12.30 Lunch as replanned. Caught news of unexpected meeting.</p> <p>15.00 Valuable meeting. Customer impressed with new range. Could be profitable. Alerted to collect kids from Mothers.</p> <p>18.00 Home in time for drinks and dinner with friends. Wife delighted with flowers. WHAT A DAY!</p>
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PARLIAMENT

Double murder brings calls for hanging

Calls for the reintroduction of capital punishment were made in the Commons after the recent murders of two elderly spinners was raised by MPs during question time.

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State, Home Office, said he deplored the murders and circumstances in which elderly people are put at risk. There would be an opportunity to debate capital punishment at a later date.

He was replying to Mr William Cash (Stafford, C), who asked if he would take note of the very strong feeling on the Conservative benches for the reintroduction of capital punishment.

Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Littleborough and Saddleworth, C) said that the two elderly spinners, Susan and Florence Egerton, aged 92 and 81, who were savagely and barbarically killed, lived in his constituency.

Did the minister think the state was protecting its citizens sufficiently? Would he pay regard to the several initiatives which he (Mr Dickens) had sent in to the Home Office and to the way he voted on the clause, for the reintroduction of capital punishment, to the Criminal Justice Bill when it returned to the Commons this month.

Mr Mellor: The Government is solicitous of the welfare of elderly people and everyone else. There had been an increase of 15,000 police officers over the past seven years and a great deal had been done to strengthen penalties for violent offences. The spiralling growth of the neighbourhood watch scheme meant that people were able to protect themselves by a more communal interest in each other's welfare.

Mr Mark Carile (Warrington South, C) while sharing the abhorrence expressed over the murders of the two people concerned, does he realize that many of us in this House do not believe that the return of capital punishment is the answer.

Mr Mark Carile (Warrington South, C) while sharing the abhorrence expressed over the murders of the two people concerned, does he realize that many of us in this House do not believe that the return of capital punishment is the answer.

Mr Mellor: Yes and I am one of them.

Earlier he said that a survey carried out in 1984 suggested that about 13,000 people aged 60 or over were victims of violent crime which was 7 per cent of the total of 182,000 such offences.

Would he talk to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, to ensure that the basics were done, that estates were properly lit, that there were secure locks on people's doors and decent social security to support elderly people.

Mr Mellor said that all that was happening. The Government was spending more than £40 million on putting in protection to pensioners' homes. Our scheme allowed basic protection to people's homes to be put in for as little as £40.

Mr Robin Corbett (Birmingham, Edingdon, Lab) said that behind the ever-rising crime figures were millions of elderly people living in terror behind their front doors, especially in the inner cities. Would he think again about making available crime prevention grants?

Mr Mellor said that he had already indicated the developments in the community programme. It was part of the Labour Party's policy to try to bribe the electorate with their own money. It had come up with a scheme for home security grants. There was no indication of how they could possibly afford it.

Asylum abuse angers MPs

There was evidence of a growing feeling in Britain against abuse of the system of seeking asylum in this country, Mr David Waddington, a Minister of State at the Home Office, said. He also emphasized the need for speedy action in cases in which people were fraudulently trying to enter the country.

The questions began when Mr John Munn (Solihull, Lab) said that the destruction of passports en route by those making irregular attempts to get into the country was a clear indication of bad faith.

Many of our constituents still have misgivings about the measures being introduced. They cannot understand how it has taken so long.

Mr Waddington: The situation has got much worse in the past year or two. There have been more irregular movements, more forged documents and more abuse of applications.

In February, out of 233 applications made at the ports there for refugee status, 185 involved false passports.

He said later that there was to be a meeting with UKIAS, but it would not be possible to spell out all the circumstances in which a reference on an application for asylum would be made to UKIAS. Those making applications must not expect that their cases were bound to be referred.

Mr Toby Jessel (Twickenham, C) wanted an investigation of allegations that photographs were removed from British visitors' passports when they were sold in post offices and while the gum was still wet and that they were replaced by photographs of other people.

Mr Waddington said he would examine any allegations that Mr Jessel passed to him.

He said later that in the recent Tamil case days had elapsed by the time the court order was made and two weeks had passed by the time the Home Secretary made his Commons statement. By that time "we were causing a great many people might describe as a legal morass and goodness knows how long it would have taken us to extricate ourselves from it".

There were some people who were for ever saying they favoured firm control but as soon as there was evasion they were unwilling to do anything about it.

"One of the problems is that if there is delay in removing people the opportunity of removing them is often lost for all time."

Seventeen Tamils were returned to southern India in the last month or two and were sent back by the Indians on the argument that they had been longer in this country while our proceedings were than they had been in India.

Mr John Watts (Slough, C) said that many thought it ludicrous that those seeking to come in by deception should have access to the UKIAS, which was funded by the British taxpayer and which could help them to persist in their deception.

Mr Waddington said there were bound to be circumstances and cases where, in the interests of firm immigration control, it would not be right to refer to UKIAS.

Court forces minister to change some grants

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in a Commons statement that he had to change the rate-support grant allocations to some London boroughs after a court judgment in a case brought by Greenwich Borough Council.

He said that the judgment would mean that he could not correct an acknowledged error in the 1986-87 rate settlement. The error deprived some London boroughs of their full grant entitlement.

"As a result of that judgment, it is necessary now to amend the rate-support grant figures I announced in January for 1986-87 and 1987-88, so that grants can be paid from the beginning of April."

He had lodged an appeal against the judgment.

Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman, said the statement was completely inadequate in that it sought to disguise the very serious nature of the situation resulting from the incompetence of the Government in its handling of local government finance.

It was truly an unprecedented situation. Figures for the current and coming financial years were again to be affected by changes as a result of Government and ministerial ineptitude.

He was trying to disguise, by his lack of candour and detail, the reality of wide-ranging implications of what he had had to say.

When would there be an end to the legal defeats for the Government in the courts resulting from its continuing incompetence in the crucial field of local government finance?

Was he intending to carry through his appeal against the Greenwich decision? Why was he already announcing his decision to amend the rate-support grant figures?

How many changes resulted from his decision? How many local authorities would be affected? Did the Government intend to make more grant available in total? How many authorities were likely to lose grant as a result of the announcement?

Did he recall the Minister of State (Mr William Waldegrave) telling the House last year that legislation was necessary to provide local authorities with certainty about present and past entitlements?

Since then there had been three more local government finance Bills and countless statements on the same subject.

Was it true that the Conservative Borough of Bromley, having made its rate and announced its budget, would be in an unlawful position if the changes that he was announcing today were to be carried through?

Many other local authorities were going to be in the same difficulties because of the necessity to fix precepts by March 10 and to fix their rates by April 1?

announcements by the Tory Reform Group, endorsed by Kenneth Baker, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Mr Michael Heseltine, Mr Douglas Hurd and Lord Whitelaw, which said: "The Government is acting in a haphazard way, making up its decisions as it goes along. It had no clear idea why it had to intervene so constantly, what was fundamentally wrong in local government, and how to put it right."

Did he think he rated the confidence of his colleagues? Any other minister with such an abysmal record of unlawful actions, defeats in the courts, administrative incompetence and lack of frankness to the House, would now be considering his position.

Mr Ridley: Not only does he range over matters totally irrelevant to this statement, but he describes my statement as a legal defeat. I must make it clear that I have appealed. The appeal papers have been lodged. It is quite wrong and he is prejudging that appeal to say that kind of thing.

The law is as it was left by the High Court judgment. For that reason, it is necessary to amend the rate-support grant figures in accordance with the judgment.

Dr Cunningham sets so many things wrong, I do not know where to start (Opposition laughter). It is not the case of Government incompetence. It is the result of a court judgment.

If he does not know the difference between these he has much to learn.

No more grant will be available as a result of this judgment. The system is closed-ended. Certain boroughs will lose as a result of this judgment.

The grant which should properly be paid to certain London boroughs for maintaining their roads will now be switched to other boroughs that do not have the responsibility for maintaining those roads.

That is a most inequitable situation. I regret very much that the judgment means I will have to enshrine it in the new rate support grant figures put forward.

Mr Colin Mowbray (Leisham, East, C) said it was disgraceful that Greenwich had sought to find a loophole in the law to hold on to money which was not theirs to the detriment of other authorities.

Mr Ridley: I agree that it is inequitable that grants which this House has determined should go to authorities for specific purposes should have been changed to go to authorities which did not need them to discharge those responsibilities.

Mr John Hunt (Ravensbourne, C) said Bromley's rate calculations for last year and this year had been made on the basis of "the clearest commitment given by me and the council by ministers and Mr Ridley's officials".

Mr Ridley said Bromley had lost about £3 million because of the interpretation of the law in the court judgment. They must await the result of his appeal.



Mr Austin Mitchell: "Hang on, your lordship, Labour is coming."

Thatcher defends record on pensioners' rises

The Government's record on pensions was defended by Mrs Margaret Thatcher during Prime Minister's question time when she clashed with Mr Neil Kinnock on the criteria for fixing them.

She rejected his demand that they should be linked to average earnings and maintained that pensioners' incomes had risen 2.7 per cent a year in real terms since 1979, compared with 0.6 per cent during the term of the last Labour Government.

Mr Kinnock opened the attack when he said: Because the broke the link between pension rises and average earnings, pensioner incomes in Britain are now £11.40 a week worse off and single pensioners are £7.20 a week worse off than they would have been if the link had been maintained.

Would she restore that link since it is so obvious that some of the poorest people in Britain have been seriously deprived as a consequence of her policies, or does she think these people, who desperately need every penny they can get, are going to be able to afford to go on losing hundreds of pounds a year?

Mr Thatcher: No, we will not restore the link with average earnings.

We undertook to introduce price-related pensions and they have gone up faster than the increase in prices.

If he takes a true comparison he should compare the standard of living of pensioners today with the standard of living of pensioners as a whole under the Labour Government.

Between 1979 and 1985 the average income of pensioners has risen by 18 per cent in real terms, more than twice the increase for the population as a whole. When we compare that with the record of the Labour Government, that is an average increase of 2.7 per cent a year compared with 0.6 per cent a year between 1974 and 1979.

Mr Kinnock: The first set of figures is attributable almost entirely to the inclusion of the state earnings related pension scheme in that figure and that is a check for a Prime Minister seeking to destroy that scheme.

PRIME MINISTER

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A little advice for the major

DEFENCE

Lord Morpeth, who yesterday announced in *The Times* that he had resigned his commission as a major in the 9th/12th Lancers, was advised by a Labour MP in the Commons: "Hang on, Labour is coming."

The advice brought an outburst of laughter and cheers which brought the House to a halt.

It was during Prime Minister's questions that Mr Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby, Lab) asked: "Will Mrs Thatcher read the letter in the late edition of *The Times* from Lord Morpeth in which he is announcing that he is resigning his commission in protest against the savage cuts in the Army, Navy and Air Force?"

He said, amid the protests, that Lord Morpeth had written that vehicles breaking down could not be repaired, that "the efficiency of the finest and most effective volunteer fighting force in Nato is degraded" and that "equipment which entered service in the 1960s will still have to operate at the turn of the century".

"Instead of giving the Army nothing but excuses, will she send a message to Viscount Morpeth: 'Hang on, Labour is coming'?"

Instead of cutting conventional forces to buy Trident, Labour will build up conventional forces straight away" (Conservative laughter and Labour cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: Labour defence policy and his question show how much worse things would have been under Labour.

They would have spent £2 billion less than we have spent on the Army and Navy and would not have honoured all the pay increases as recommended by the Armed Forces Pay Review Body, as we have.

Earlier, Mr Michael Bates (East Hampshire, C) also referred to the criticism in *The Times* about the state of the British Army.

"A real problem remains because the conventional threat to Nato continues to grow. It is massive."

"The increased resources available in the past seven years have enabled the Army in pay and equipment to continue to improve their professionalism. Anybody who puts the defence of the country in the hands of any opposition party wants his head examined."

Mrs Thatcher agreed that the Opposition had no defence policy for Britain. The present Government had spent £2,000 million more in real terms on the Army, than if expenditure had been left at the 1978-79 level.

They had provided new battle tanks, personnel carriers, missiles and communications equipment.

Furthermore the Government had always implemented in full each defence report on Service pay (Labour protests).

The Speaker asked the House not to shout.

Peers to examine abortion Bill

By Sheila Gema, Political Staff

Nine peers, including Lady Warnock, were appointed by the House of Lords yesterday to examine the merits of the Bishop of Birmingham's Bill to ban late abortions.

The select committee, which begins to hear evidence on March 24, will decide if the Bill should continue through Parliament. It can call for evidence from experts and officials and is also entitled to visit abortion clinics.

The Oxford student's unsuccessful fight through the courts to prevent his former girlfriend having an abortion has focused attention on the ambiguity in the law.

The Bill would change the deadline for abortions under the Life Preservation Act, 1927, from 28 to 24 weeks. It is not expected to be enacted as it stands, but the committee hearings will provide a chance to see if there is a need for a change in the law.

The Bishop, Dr Hugh Montefiore, said: "The case threw a spotlight on the Bill and made people realize there might be more good sense in my Bill than they realized."

Permissive society attacked

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Mr Nicholas St Aubyn, the Conservative candidate in the Truro by-election, yesterday launched a sharp attack on the permissive society, saying it was an important cause of rising crime.

Echoing the views of Mr Norman Tebbit, the Tory chairman, Mr St Aubyn blamed lax supervision of today's teenagers on parents who came of age in the 1960s.

He said: "It was the '60s generation which now accounts for most of the criminal class."

"They were brought up in the permissive society and the reasons why they failed to see the importance of obeying the law are mixed up with the environment in which they were brought up."

The Tory candidate in this Cornish Liberal stronghold, where Mr Matthew Taylor, the Alliance candidate is on course to inherit much of the late Mr David Penhaligon's 10,480 majority, showed himself to be strong in his party's law and order camp.

Truro by-election

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Poll tax 'should be tried first'

The following is a report of yesterday's proceedings in the Commons when the report stage of the *Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc (Scotland) Bill* began.

It appeared in later editions of this newspaper yesterday.

The proposed poll tax for Scotland should be tried out in one experimental area before being imposed on the whole country, Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said when moving an Opposition new clause to that effect at the start of the report stage.

The new clause also proposed the establishment of an independent monitoring commission to assess the impact of the experimental scheme.

Mr Dewar said that the poll-tax scheme was so radical and fundamental that he thought that approach would be appropriate on this occasion.

Mr Malcolm Ridley, Secretary of State for Scotland, said that all the indications suggested that the majority of opinion in Scotland was hostile to the system of domestic rates.

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Debate on prospects for removal of intermediate nuclear weapons from Europe. Debate on Alliance motion on the disparity of opportunities within the UK.

Tuesday: Debates (Scotland) Bill, second reading; Parliamentary and Health Service Commissioners Bill, remaining stages.

Wednesday: Debate on assistance to the motor vehicle industry. Debate on the motor vehicle industry.

Thursday: Debate on the arts. Debate on trade between the EEC and the US.

Friday: Debate on private member's motion on treatment and care of cancer patients.

The main business in the House of Lords will be: Monday: Consumer Protection Bill, report stage, first day. Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Bill, third reading.

Parliament today

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Crowded jails 'lack basic standards of human decency'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The harsh reality of life for prisoners in overcrowded jails is disclosed by the National Association for the Resettlement of Offenders today.

With present trends pointing to a prison population of 50,000 by Easter, Nacro looks at six prisons all seriously overcrowded: Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, Pentonville, Wandsworth and Wormwood Scrubs.

When figures for its report were gathered on November 14 Birmingham held 1,085 prisoners in accommodation designed for 570 (90 per cent overcrowded); Leeds had 1,298 prisoners in space for 630 (106 per cent overcrowded); Liverpool 1,278 in space for 838 (52 per cent); Pentonville 1,049 in space for 656 (37 per cent); Wandsworth 1,548 in space for 1,265 (22 per cent); and Wormwood Scrubs 1,405 in accommodation designed for 1,011 (39 per cent).

In all six prisons inmates are normally allowed only one bath or shower a week and can change their underclothes and socks just twice a week.

Work opportunities are restricted. In the week beginning November 3, prison workshops were open for periods

95.3 prisoners for every 100,000 inhabitants. Of all the Council of Europe's member states, only Austria with 102.5 per 100,000 and Turkey with 102.3 had proportionately higher prison populations. There was no sign that the Government's prison building programme would improve the position.

To date, new prisons had simply been filled with ever-increasing numbers of extra prisoners and had provided no relief for existing overcrowded jails. Nacro calls on the Government to legislate to reduce the use of imprisonment for non-violent offenders. It should introduce new ways of strengthening the effectiveness of judicial guidance and encourage courts to use prison more sparingly.

The measures should include:

- Tighter statutory restrictions on the use of imprisonment.
- A supervised release scheme for short-term prisoners.
- A sentencing council, chaired by the Lord Chief Justice, to issue regular guideline judgements to the courts.

Aspects of Life in Local Prisons (Nacro 169, Chapham Road, London SW9 0PU; free).



The actress Jill Gascoine (left) and Glenys Kinnock, wife of the Labour leader, at a London conference yesterday held by the charity War on Want to launch a campaign to help women in the Third World (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

BCal engine overhaul subsidiary sold

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

British Caledonian has sold Airmotive, its profitable engine overhaul subsidiary, because it cannot afford to invest sufficient funds to enable the plant to expand.

In the past 18 months BCal has shed most of its subsidiary companies in advance of hav-

ing to buy two new aircraft fleets at a cost of nearly £1,000 million.

The sale of the Prestwick-based company is the most significant move yet. Aviall, the Ryder System subsidiary, has bought all its shares, but the price has not been disclosed.

Last year the company

made £2.4 million profit for the BCal group and looked set to make even more as demand increased for engine overhaul.

BCal had planned to double the size of the Prestwick plant and had already created 70 new jobs to cope with the extra demand. But with the huge borrowings needed to fund the purchase of A320 and MD11

jets next year BCal did not have the capital thought necessary to build the company up to the right size.

Sir Adam Thomson, chairman of BCal, said: "Our feeling is that we should give complete priority to the airline and that we should not hold Airmotive back in any way."

Hansard succumbs to lure of keyboard

By Robert Matthews

One of the most famous figures in the Houses of Parliament, the 200-word a minute Hansard shorthand reporter, is about to succumb to computer technology.

Trials are about to start on a computer keyboard which will enable Hansard reporters to take down MPs' speeches and convert them into print almost instantaneously.

Mr Kenneth Morgan, editor of Hansard, said yesterday that the change had been caused by the shortage of recruits able to reach, and maintain, the high speeds demanded of a reporter.

Staff turnover during the past few years had been high, and the cost of training replacements was unacceptable. "We're horrendously short-staffed", he said.

The first computer trials will probably be held in standing committee meetings early in the summer. If all goes well, stenographic keyboards should find their way into the chamber itself next spring.

Mr Morgan said computers had been considered before, but only now were systems becoming available which offered real improvements on Pitman. Recruits could be trained in 12 months, compared with three years, and production times would be greatly improved.

Weekend food guide

Bountiful harvest for grape eaters

In the past eight years imports of grapes to the United Kingdom have gone up by 73 per cent and last year we spent just under £150 million on them. There is an amazing variety in the shops now.

At the top end of the market there are Thompsons and Sultan Seedless between 90p and £1.20 per lb; Bien Donne (White) from the Cape, and the Chilean Flame, 75-95p; Queen of the Vineyards and Waltham Cross from 80-95p and Alphonse Lavalle and Dan Ben Hanna at 70p-£1.

Citrus fruit is another good buy with oranges 8-20p each, white and pink-fleshed grapefruit 10-40p and star-shaped lemons, 8-20p each.

Early forced rhubarb at 45p a lb is plentiful. Home-grown Cox's apples, 25-40p a pound, are good, but the quality and flavour of the Granny Smiths leave a lot to be desired. Pineapples are plentiful and reasonably priced between 60p and £1.50 and there are red, black, and golden plums from the Cape and Chile from 50-90p a pound.

The best value vegetables are winter and Savoy cabbages, 15-20p a pound, carrots 10-15p; mushrooms, 40-65p a half-pound; parsnips and turnips, 20-30p a lb. Brussel sprouts and cauliflowers are in short supply. Chinese Leaves from Holland, Spain, and Israel are plentiful. English hothouse

tomatoes, although good, are rather expensive, between 90p and £1.20 a lb, but there are limited supplies of imported tomatoes at between 60-86p a lb.

Lemon soles were in short supply at Billingsgate this week, and prices have risen. Good buys include mussels from 40p a pint, sardines, £1.10 a lb, sprats, about 70p, and skate, £1.80.

Home-produced lamb prices are creeping up again, particularly in the South-east where almost all cuts are up by 1p-5p a lb. Boneless sirloin of beef is up 6p in the South-east, but sirloin steak is down 8p a lb to an average £3.69.

Meat and poultry on promotion at shops and supermarkets include at Asda: fresh whole chickens up to 3lb 15oz, 69p a lb and middle fillet of pork, 99p a lb; Tesco: fresh minced beef, 78p a lb, New Zealand shoulder of lamb, 69p a lb, and boneless pork loin steaks, £1.59 a lb. Dewhurst: four-pound packs of pork chops, £4.80; Sainsbury: minced beef 78p a lb and pork loin chops £1.08 a lb; DeJans: small quick-cook chickens, 20oz, £1.29 each, roasting chicken, 4lb-4lb 14oz, 59p a lb; Presto: topside and silver-side of beef £1.88 a lb and New Zealand lamb chops, £1.25 a lb; Marks & Spencer: fresh turkey, 99p a lb and boneless turkey roast, £1.69 a lb.

2 remanded on attempted murder charge

A prisoner accused of escaping while being taken to his wedding was further remanded yesterday by Lambeth magistrates.

Michael Turner, aged 29, was charged with escaping while being taken to a registry office.

He was also charged with attempting to murder PC Ian Thomas and firearm offences.

John Newman, aged 27, of Kennington, south-east London, was also charged with attempted murder and two firearm offences. Both men were remanded in custody for two weeks.

Chernobyl is blamed for empty farms

The radiation fall-out from Chernobyl has brought a blight on farmland in Cumbria, the Country Landowners' Association claimed yesterday.

It said fears about Chernobyl and the close proximity of the Sellafield nuclear plant meant people were not prepared to buy land in certain areas.

Some farms had become worthless.

Restrictions on the movement and slaughter of sheep and lambs on many farms were introduced last year.

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Due to the vast number of pieces and value involved, the auctions have been divided into twelve separate collections thus affording everyone an equal opportunity to acquire one or more of these masterpieces.

The first session of these Auction Sales will be held on Sunday 8th March 1987 at:

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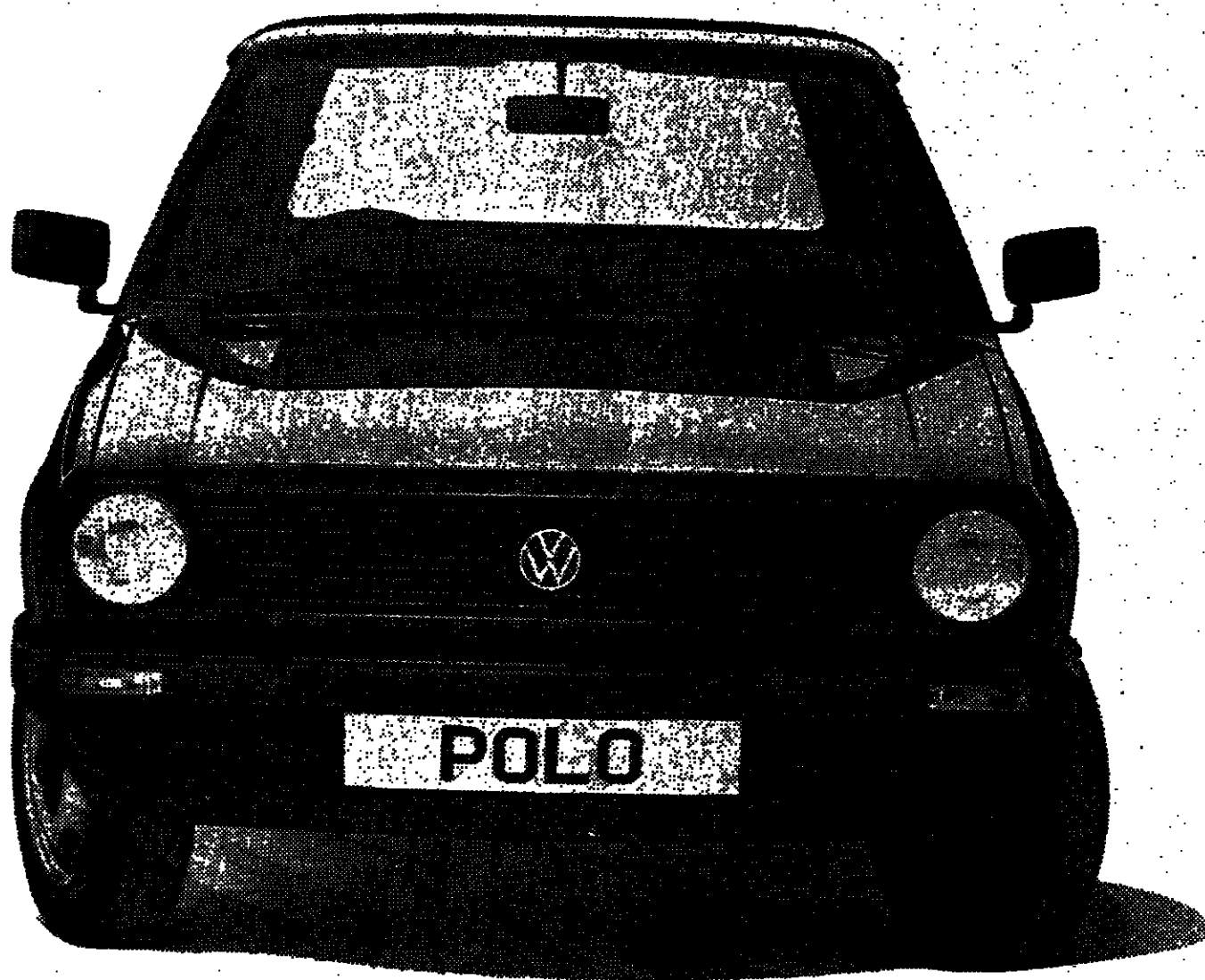
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EXPORT AND FLEET SALES, 95 BAKER STREET, LONDON W1M 1JB. TELEPHONE 01-486 8411

WORLD SUMMARY

Mine managers face death charges

Johannesburg (Reuters) — Seven managers and employees at South Africa's Krommeboom gold mine will face charges of culpable homicide arising from last year's disaster in which 177 miners died, the South African Attorney-General's office said yesterday. They were killed in September at Krommeboom, some 90 miles east of here, when a fire released toxic fumes which suffocated workers deep underground.

Charges have been laid against a Krommeboom director, Mr Hugh Smith, its manager, Mr Ignatius Olivier, and five other employees in charge of underground operations at the time, a spokesman for the Attorney-General said.

Three of the accused face alternative charges of breaking safety regulations. The case will probably be heard in Witbank Regional Court, near Krommeboom, in mid-May.

● **Babies in jail:** A total of 2,280 young children — many of them being breast-fed — stayed with their mothers in prison at some point during 1986, the Justice Minister, Mr Kobi Coetsee, said yesterday (AP reports).

Renault trial due

Paris — Nathalie Ménigon, aged 30, and Joëlle Aubron, aged 27, both alleged leading members of the terrorist group Action Directe, were yesterday charged with the murder in November of M Georges Besse, former managing director of Renault (Diana Geddes writes).

Jean-Marie Rouillon, aged 34, said to be the founder of Action Directe, and Georges Cipriani, aged 35, were charged with complicity. All were arrested two weeks ago in a police raid on a remote farmhouse near Orleans.

Transatlantic rock

New York — Musicians in England and America could be making records together without having to cross the Atlantic, using a new technique of long-distance recording demonstrated for the first time this week by the rock singers Stevie Wonder and Nile Rodgers (Charles Bremner writes).

Using high-technology digital equipment, fibre optics and satellite circuits, recording studios in New York and Los Angeles joined them as if they were in the same room.

Mr Ben Rizz, co-owner of the Master Sound Astoria Studios in the New York borough of Queens, said there was no loss of quality in the transmission during the four-hour session.

Mr Rizz said the session differed from a transatlantic performance a year ago by Stevie Wonder and Paul McCartney, which was a broadcast performance by radio that was recorded.

Pakistan denial

Islamabad (AFP) — The Pakistan Science and Technology Minister, Mr Wasim Sajjad, yesterday told Parliament that his country does not possess or want an atomic bomb and cannot afford one.

His comment came in the wake of the publication of a controversial interview in which Pakistan's top nuclear scientist, Mr Abdul Qadeer Khan, allegedly acknowledged that the country had a nuclear bomb.

'Not mad, but bad'

Penang (Reuters) — A retired Malaysian government psychiatrist said yesterday that Mr Derrick Gregory, aged 37, from Richmond, Surrey, who is on trial in Malaysia after having allegedly smuggled heroin into the country in 1982, did not have a mental disorder and understood what he was doing.

Mr Gregory faces the death penalty if convicted. However Dr M Subramanian told the Penang High Court that Mr Gregory "may have had a somewhat deviant personality, characterized by... a strong tendency towards anti-social behaviour. He is not mad, but bad".

Earlier, a psychiatrist for the defence, Dr Mahalingam Mahadevan, said that Mr Gregory never learnt from experience, despite being sent to prison in Britain. He agreed that serious illness may have stunted his development during his formative years.

US jets grounded by Navy

Washington (AP) — The US Navy has grounded or placed flight restrictions on more than half of its A-6E Intruder attack jets because of concerns about fatigue cracks in the wings.

The groundings and restrictions have been imposed on 186 aircraft pending completion of a new inspection programme.

Gold haul

Bombay (AP) — Customs officials seized more than 100 lb of gold from a Filipino couple and an American woman, in India's single largest airport gold haul.

Killer blaze

Manila (AFP) — Eighteen people, including eight children, died when a former shoe factory they were living in burst down near here as the Philippines celebrated "Fire Prevention Month".

Gun in honey

Rome (Reuters) — An American was arrested at Rome's Fiumicino Airport after police found a revolver hidden in a jar of honey in his luggage, airport officials said.

Kidnap claim

Kampala (Reuters) — Philomena Matoka, a former minister in the ousted government of Milton Obote, has been charged with kidnapping with intent to murder.

Hopping mad

Delhi (Reuters) — India yesterday banned the export of frogs' legs to gourmet markets in Western Europe and North America after protests from conservationists.

Indonesia visitor

Jakarta — Mr Edward Shevardnadze, the first Soviet Foreign Minister to visit Indonesia for more than 20 years, arrived here from Australia yesterday, saying he came with the best of intentions and he hoped to discuss bilateral and regional issues, including the arms race (Our Correspondent writes).

Shortly before his arrival the Indonesian Afghanistan Solidarity Committee issued a statement condemning the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. Indonesia is 90 per cent Muslim.

Doe calls in US aid

Washington — Liberia has given sweeping authority to US experts to manage its debt-ridden economy which is in a shambles partly because of lack of expertise among the economic managers (Christopher Thomas writes). Seventeen financial experts on contract to the US Government are being given the right to approve every government cheque and to form what one State Department official called a shadow economic cabinet.

'Ivan' identity card produced

A cream-coloured identity card numbered 1393, secretly brought to Israel from the Soviet Union by a millionaire businessman, was presented to the war crimes trial here yesterday as part of the evidence meant to prove that the defendant, Mr John Demjanjuk, is "Ivan the Terrible", the executioner of Treblinka death camp.

The card was produced by Assistant Commander Alex Ish-Shalom, the police officer in charge of the investigation. It had been obtained, he said,

from Our Own Correspondent by Mr Armand Hammer, of Occidental Oil, a Jewish businessman who had made repeated requests for it from the Soviet Union. Mr Hammer is known to have maintained good relations with every Soviet leader since the days of Lenin.

The card, which Mr Demjanjuk claims is a KGB forgery, is supposed to be from the SS training camp of Trawniki, where Ukrainians were taught how to run extermination camps. It shows a photograph of a young man in

black SS uniform and a signature which the defendant denies is his. It also shows that the holder had a scar on his back, identical to one on the back of the defendant.

It does not, however, show that the holder served at Treblinka, but at Oksow, a farm where Jewish women worked as labourers, and at Sobibor, another Polish camp.

Yesterday the court ordered that the card should be kept in a police safe pending forensic tests to try to prove its authenticity.

Japanese tradition revived

From David Watts, Takaragawa, Japan

A white heron is said to have led the first visitor, a wandering god, to Takaragawa hot spring, considered one of Japan's finest open-air watering places.

Nowadays the Bullet train brings you to within a bus-ride, but once you have slipped between the mountains and crossed the hanging bridge over the Treasure river to the old Japanese inn, you might well be going back 200 years.

Takaragawa could hardly be further away in essence from the frenetic energy that drives industrial Japan. The only tangible connections are the groups of female university students and company men who crowd into the inn.

Perhaps because they have done so well materially the Japanese are rediscovering some of the nooks and crannies of their culture, such as the hot spring bath, which is enjoying a new vogue.

Most baths are indoors but the most exhilarating are outside, and the best time to try

them is on a winter's night. The only sounds are those of the river and its hot spring waters, a murmured conversation or giggling from the ladies' pool.

The spring water is channelled into the men's rock pool through a hollowed-out pine trunk. When you have walked across the bridge in the frigid air from the warmth of the inn it is a delight to plunge up to the neck while the steady snowfall settles like icing on your hair.

Takaragawa's benefits are mainly in the relaxation the hot water offers, but many of the 2,000 or so onsen, hot springs, across Japan offer all kinds of cures for humans and animals. There is one at the end of a seven-hour hike up a mountain, one which has enough bath space for 19 injured or exhausted horses at a time, tropical jungle baths, some on remote offshore islands and one in which you can take a bath while suspended in mid-air in a gondola.

Most baths are indoors but the most exhilarating are outside, and the best time to try

Kremlin welcomes US proposals

Hopes rise for early missile accord

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Kremlin reacted optimistically yesterday to the new American proposals on eliminating medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe which were tabled in Geneva earlier this week, and which both sides now hope may lead to agreement on an accord within six months.

Noting that Washington's proposals stuck closely to the draft agreement on the issue reached last October in Reykjavik, Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the chief Kremlin spokesman, said: "Our initial reaction to this is very positive. We see things have started to move and we would like to move them quickly, but whether we will succeed or not, remains to be seen."

Mr Gerasimov insisted in reply to a question from an American correspondent that the Soviet side wanted to press ahead rapidly to secure a pact, and would not exploit the current internal differences inside the Reagan Administration.

The Soviet official declared that Europeans should be "dancing in the streets" because Moscow had now accepted the "zero option", a plan which had originated in Washington.

Mr Gerasimov welcomed the positive reaction from a number of West European countries, notably Britain, Italy and West Germany, but was bitterly critical of those inside NATO who have expressed concern that eliminating nuclear missiles from Europe would leave the West vulnerable to Soviet conventional forces.

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Israel pressed to punish two spy controllers

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel is under mounting pressure from the United States to punish the two men responsible for recruiting and operating Mr Jonathan Pollard, the US Navy analyst who was sentenced to life imprisonment on Wednesday for spying for Israel.

The two men involved are Mr Rafi Eitan, a former Mossad secret agent blamed by an internal Israeli report for running the "rogue" buying operation, and Colonel Avi Sella, the Air Force officer who has just been indicted by an American grand jury on three counts of espionage for persuading Mr Pollard to obtain top secret information.

In December, 1985, the Israeli Government issued an apology to the United States, admitting that the spying activity was wrong even if it was unauthorized and promising to uncover all the facts, adding that "those responsible will be brought to account".

Mr Eitan has been punished by losing the desk he had in the Prime Minister's office, from which he ran the Pollard operation. But with the help of his friend Mr Ariel Sharon, now Trade and Industry Minister, he was then made head of the nationalized Israeli Chemicals company.

Colonel Sella has done even better. In no way punished, he was appointed commander of an air base and last month was promoted to run an even larger one, a post which normally would mean that he would be given the rank of Brigadier-General.

Last week the United States protested about this appointment. According to an American official "we protested that a promotion did not square with Israel's original promise that all of those involved

would be held accountable". As a result of the protest the colonel's rank has not been changed yet, something which has angered some Israeli politicians who claim it is unwarranted interference in the country's internal affairs.

Because Israel's extradition treaty with the United States does not cover espionage, there is no question of the colonel being made to stand trial and risk a life sentence. However, he cannot travel to any other country which does have such a treaty, and this is an added embarrassment because he has often been spoken of as a likely Air Force commander and as such would need to travel widely.

Yesterday Mr Ehud Gol, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, repeated the Government's apology of 1985, saying that "our relations with the United States are based on solid foundations of deep friendship, close affinity and mutual trust. Spying on the United States stands in total contradiction of our policy".

But as far as the colonel and the head of Israeli Chemicals were concerned, he gave no response beyond saying this was being dealt with through appropriate diplomatic channels.

Mr Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset's Defence and Foreign Affairs Committee, said yesterday that the handling of the case was "the most difficult moment in the history of Israel's international relations, expressly because the mishap is home-made, the fruit of an Israeli initiative... and negligence of senior figures who evinced an alarming lack of responsibility and harmed Israel's most essential interest and who also harmed the man that they handled".

tion arising out of the Iran arms affair.

The spokesman emphasized that although initial signs on both sides were encouraging, "between an agreement in principle and practical implementation there can be a thousand miles of road." All now depended on whether technical issues, such as how to verify an accord, were treated "in a business-like way", or made a pretext for delay.

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Although he did not single out Mrs Thatcher, who is flying to Moscow at the end of this month to meet Mr Gorbachev, he said that people in Europe were now linking medium-range missiles with the question of lesser-range weapons.

Following concern expressed by Mrs Thatcher and Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, Mr Maynard Glitman, the chief US negotiator on medium-range missiles in Geneva, made it clear that the US draft treaty included provisions to ensure parity between the superpowers on shorter-range missiles.

The Americans are insisting on "matching" the Russians on these missiles, which have a range of less than 1,000 kilometres (620 miles). At present there is a 9-to-1 superiority in the Soviet

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The Lebanon security plan

Syria extends control to the gates of PLO stronghold in Sidon

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

With Syrian plain-clothes security agents ostentatiously patrolling the coastal highway in their conspicuous white Range Rovers, Lebanese troops of the largely Muslim 12th Brigade have taken possession of all militia checkpoints down to the outskirts of Sidon.

Their deployment, which was completed yesterday morning, means that the army of the Syrian Mukhabarat (intelligence) organization now stretches 25 miles south of the capital to the very edge of a city which is partially controlled by Mr Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization PLO guerrillas.

Druze gunmen, including several white-haired pensioners who may qualify as the oldest militiamen in Lebanon, willingly abandoned their road blocks to the Lebanese Army, whose eight M 48 tanks were driven down to the Jiyeh power station halfway between Beirut and Sidon.

The Syrians, who regard the deployment as a further successful demonstration of their security plan, are now waiting for the Christian Eighth Brigade of the Army to take over Phalangist militia positions along the Green Line in east Beirut.

Somewhere, however, the Syrians have to draw another line between dreams and reality. For the Eighth Brigade is

nowhere near ready to take over from the Phalange, while Mr Arafat's men are likely to put up violent opposition to the incursion of any Syrian personnel into Sidon. Furthermore, the Christian Maronites are now arguing about whether or not they should accept the Syrian security plans, with Mr Samir Geagea,

Mrs Peggy Say, sister of an American hostage held in Lebanon yesterday, accused the US Government of concentrating too much on the Iran-Contra affair rather than on the fate of the captives whose intended release was linked to the Tehran bargaining (AP reports from Washington). Mrs Say, sister of a kidnapped journalist, Terry Anderson, said: "Our elected leaders are pursuing this autopsy with intense dedication — all to the exclusion of everything else."

the Phalangist commander, saying that there can be no peace while foreign troops remain on Lebanese soil.

President Gemayel's administration is, indeed, on the point of resuming negotiations with Damascus and he appears to have the Maronite bishops behind him. The Patriarch of the Maronite Church, Nasrallah Sfeir, has publicly asked Syria "to fulfil the objective for which it

originally came to Lebanon," a reference to the Syrian Army's first entry into the country in 1976 under the auspices of the Arab League. It was then the Christian President, rather than the Muslim Prime Minister, who invited the Syrians to Beirut. For it was the Christian community which was then under threat.

Now, it is Mr Dany Chamoun, the son of former President Camille Chamoun, who is objecting to the Syrian presence. The Israelis hope that Mr Chamoun may one day be President of Lebanon himself, and Mr Chamoun has certainly aligned himself with the Israelis. Mr Chamoun expressed his surprise at the Patriarch's remarks. Was it not the Syrians who drove the Christians from the Chouf Mountains in 1983, he asked?

As usual in Lebanon, history is available to all sides. The Christians lived in the Chouf Mountains under Syrian control before the Israeli invasion of 1982. The Israelis brought the Christian Phalangist militia into the mountains and it was they whom the Druze decided to crush when the Israelis withdrew from the area in 1983.

This being Lebanon, the Druze — who were indeed supported then by the Syrians — drove out not only the Phalange but virtually every Christian as well.



Angry Beirut schoolchildren shouting anti-government slogans during a demonstration in the Lebanese capital yesterday in protest at rising school tuition fees.

Cardinal Sin leaves politics to Aquino

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Cardinal Jaime Sin, the Philippines' most controversial and vocal churchman, announced yesterday that he was withdrawing from the political arena, and would recommend other clergy do likewise, because President Aquino represents the "forces of good".

"From here on in, I shall stay in the background," said the outspoken Archbishop of Manila.

Through critical pastoral letters, scathing speeches and interviews, Cardinal Sin became known locally and internationally as a bitter critic of the 20-year Marcos regime.

"I was involved myself in a fight between the forces of good and the forces of evil. No bishop... can remain neutral in the face of evil," he said.

By radio appeals over the church-run Radio Veritas, he helped generate the "people's power" revolt last year that successfully toppled the Marcos regime after a military uprising.

"I could articulate the protests that were welling up in the throats of the people but which could not find expression because of a paralysis induced by fear," he said.

The Vatican disapproves of church involvement in politics. Fire kills 18: Fire raged through a two-storey building in the outer suburb of Marikina before dawn yesterday, killing 18 people, including a mother and her six children, police said.

Openness stops short of 'Cancer Ward'

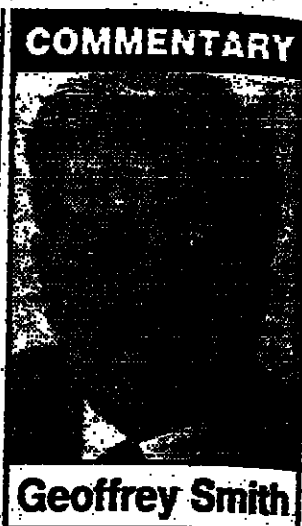
From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The limits of the new Kremlin policy of *glasnost* (openness) do not extend as far as allowing the publication of *Cancer Ward*, the novel by Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the exiled Russian author and distinguished chronicler of the plight of political dissidents.

This was made clear yesterday by Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Kremlin's chief spokesman, who denied reports from Denmark at the weekend, quoting a prominent Soviet literary editor as saying that the book would soon be freed for publication.

The premature report that the ban on the novel, which deals with the author's experiences in a hospital in exile in Tashkent in the 1950s, was being lifted came in the account of an interview with Mr Sergei Zalygin, editor of the magazine *Novy Mir*, which appeared in a Danish newspaper. It claimed there were longer-term plans to publish *The Gulag Archipelago* in the Soviet Union.

Asked why the publication was not possible in the new atmosphere, when other previously banned works such as *Dr Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak are soon to appear, Mr Gerasimov said that the copyright for *Cancer Ward* belonged to Mr Solzhenitsyn, now living in the United States after being deported in 1974. "In the editorial boards of our magazines, there are no plans to publish *Cancer Ward*," Mr Gerasimov said.



Geoffrey Smith

Washington

President Reagan had two tasks in his critical television speech to the American people on Wednesday evening. He had to establish confidence that he is truly in charge of his Administration and he had to accept personal responsibility for the current mess.

These challenges were linked. One of the features of Iranagate had been the President's reluctance to admit that he was himself to blame. He had said that mistakes were made, but not that he had made them or that the whole policy was misconceived.

This provoked questions not only about his honesty but also about his level of attention even after the present crisis broke. Either he simply could not bring himself to acknowledge that he was ever at fault, or he was still so remote that he remained not really aware of what had gone wrong.

He still did not apologize outright in his speech. There was again a sense in which he seemed to be accepting responsibility simply because he happened to be the leader, and it is the obligation of the man in charge to take the rap when the team blunders.

But he went further than he had gone before to acknowledge serious error and accept blame. In rhetorical terms it was an accomplished performance.

Mrs Reagan's role is important

Yet nothing Mr Reagan could have said would have established confidence that he is about to take firm managerial control of his administration. All the talk of his becoming a hands-on president seems to me nonsense. He does not have the detailed knowledge for that.

To expect him to stop delegating would be absurd. What matters is that he should delegate to the right people. This is where Mrs Reagan's influence is important.

There is a natural reaction against a president's wife exercising as much influence as she appears to have done. "Nobody elected Nancy," Mr James Reston wrote in *The New York Times*, and I have heard many similar remarks as I have travelled round the country on this visit. The more assertive she is, the less effective she makes Mr Reagan look.

Yet the consequences of her influence have been beneficial. I doubt if Mr Donald Regan would have been pushed out of the White House by now, even after the Tower report, without her doing.

She would now, I believe, like to see Mr George Shultz replaced as Secretary of State in the coming months. That would seem to me justified. He does not come well out of the Tower report.

Reaganite White House is over

He failed to protest against the arms deal with sufficient determination within the Administration. Nor should public confidence be restored by his ostentatious attempts to disassociate himself from a policy when the story broke. A Secretary of State cannot fulfil his responsibilities by shrugging his shoulders when a potentially disastrous policy is being pursued in his field.

Mrs Reagan appears to be interested not so much in policies or ideology, but in the personalities who serve her husband. It is when they let him down that she becomes tigerish. So her influence is exercised on behalf of those who are loyal and competent rather than true believers in the Reaganite faith.

With Mr Frank Carlucci already installed as National Security Adviser, with a new director nominated for the CIA, and above all with the pragmatic Mr Howard Baker as Chief of Staff, we are witnessing the steady transformation of a Reaganite into a mainstream Republican administration.

This will not put an end to the political traumas of Iranagate. The congressional investigations will proceed, especially into the diversions of funds to the Contras. There is the possibility of indictments and nobody can know what further embarrassment may be revealed.

This revamped Administration is unlikely to launch a series of bold initiatives to capture the public's imagination. President Reagan will never dominate the political field again as he did for his first six years. But there is now the prospect of competent, managerial government for the final two years.

Concern for hostages led to neglect of total Iran plan

Washington (Reuters) — Here are highlights from President Reagan's speech on Wednesday night about the Iran arms affair.

"First, let me say I take full responsibility for my own actions and for those of my Administration. As angry as I may be about activities undertaken without my knowledge, I am still accountable for those activities. As disappointed as I may be in some who served me, I am still the one who must answer to the American people for this behaviour. And as personally distasteful as I find secret bank accounts and diverted funds, as the Navy would say, this happened on my watch.

Let's start with the part that is the most controversial. A few months ago, I told the American people I did not trade arms for hostages. My heart and my best intentions still tell me that is true, but the facts and the evidence tell me it is not.

As the Tower board reported, what began as a strategic opening to Iran deteriorated in its implementation into trading arms for hostages. This runs counter to my own beliefs, to Administration policy and to the original strategy we had in mind. There are reasons why it happened, but no excuses. It was a mistake.

I undertook the original Iran initiative in order to develop relations with those who might assume leadership in a post-Khomeini government. It's clear from the board's report, however, that I let my personal concern for the hostages spill over into the geopolitical strategy of reaching out to Iran. I asked so many questions about the hostages' welfare that I didn't ask enough about the specifics of the total Iran plan.

Let me say to the hostage families: We have not given up. We never will. And I promise you we'll use every legitimate means to free your loved ones from captivity. But I must also caution that those Americans who freely remain in such dangerous areas must know that they're responsible for their own safety.

Now, another major aspect of the board's findings regards the transfer of funds to the Nicaraguan Contras. The Tower board was not able to find out what happened to this money, so the facts here will be left to the continuing investigations of the court-appointed independent counsel and the two congressional investigating committees. I'm confident the truth will come out about this matter as well. As I told the Tower board, I didn't know about any diversion of funds to the Contras. But as President, I cannot escape responsibility.

Much has been said about my management style, a style that has worked successfully for me during eight years as Governor of California and for most of my presidency. The way I work is to identify the problem, find the right individuals to do the job, and then let them go to it. I have found this invariably brings out the best in people. They seem to rise to their full capability, and in the long run you get more done.

When it came to managing the NSC staff, let's face it, my style didn't match its previous track record. I have already begun correcting this. As a



start, I met with the entire professional staff of the National Security Council. I defined for them the values I want to guide the national security policies of this country. I told them that I wanted a policy that was justifiable and understandable in public as it was in secret. I wanted a policy that reflected the will of the Congress as well as the White House. And I told them that there'll be no more freeloading by individuals when it comes to our national security.

One thing still upsetting me, however, is that no one kept proper records of meetings or decisions. This led to my failure to recollect whether I approved an arms shipment before or after the fact. I did

being rebuilt with proper management discipline. Already, almost half the NSC professional staff is comprised of new people.

I nominated William Webster, a man of sterling reputation, to be director of the Central Intelligence Agency. I am considering other changes in personnel, and I will move more furniture as I see fit in the weeks and months ahead.

Second, in the area of national security policy, I have ordered the NSC to begin a comprehensive review of all covert operations. I have also directed that any covert activity be in support of clear policy objectives and in compliance with American values.

I expect a covert policy that if Americans say it on the front page of their newspaper, they'd say, "That makes sense."

I have issued a directive prohibiting the NSC staff itself from undertaking covert operations — no ifs, ands or buts. I have asked Vice-President Bush to reconvene his task force on terrorism to review our terrorist policy in light of the events that have occurred.

Third, in terms of the process of reaching national security decisions, I am adopting in total the Tower report's model of how the NSC process and staff should work.

I am directing Mr Carlucci to take the necessary steps to make that happen. He will report back to me on further reforms that might be needed. I've created the post of NSC legal adviser to assure a greater sensitivity to matters of law.

You know, by the time you reach my age, you've made plenty of mistakes if you've lived your life properly. So you learn. You put things in perspective. You pull your energies together. You change. You go forward.

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The suffering of thousands trying to flee strife in Mozambique

Losers in a desperate gamble to reach S African sanctuary

From Michael Hornsby, Komatiport, Transvaal

Almost every weekday at this dusty border town, two police wagons deposit some 50 to 70 "illegal aliens" from Mozambique. They are furnished with "repatriation documents" stating that the holder has no passport or identity number, and sent back across the frontier.

Some, laden with plastic bags stuffed with items of clothing and food unavailable in Mozambique, seem almost prosperous. Others are barefoot and in rags, with no possessions other than the single sheet of paper stapled to a convict-like mug shot which, according to a tenuous identity.

As they shuffle over the border, they pass through a gap in an electrified fence more than seven feet high which since August has run for 15 miles along the South African side of the Mozambique border between Komatiport and KaNgwane, the Swazi homeland bordering northern Swaziland, which allows refugees to enter its territory.

The fence consists of six rolls of razor wire entanglements through which run 10 live wires carrying a charge of 3,000 volts. Safe fences run on either side of the electrified one carrying skull and crossbones signs and warnings in Afrikaans, English, Portuguese and Shangaan, the local African tongue.

Despite the danger of trying to surmount this barrier, not to mention the risk of being blown up by land-mines planted by the Mozambique Government on its side of the border, scores of Mozambicans make the attempt. Since August, nine people have died by electrocution, the South African authorities said.

"We regard the fence as an alarm system. It is not intended mainly to kill people," Major Hannes Koch, the South African Defence Force commander at Komatiport, told journalists.

This week, "There are ways of getting across without getting hurt. If someone really wants to get across, you cannot stop him."

Many of those who are forcibly repatriated return to South Africa and are rounded up over and over again in an attempt to escape civil war, starvation and economic deprivation in their native land.

The daily ritual at Komatiport is part of a wider Mozambique diaspora, a human migration involving hundreds of thousands of people. There are conservatively estimated to be 70,000 Mozambican refugees in Malawi, 23,000 in Zambia, 20,000 in Zimbabwe and up to 8,000 in Swaziland.

In South Africa there are some 310,000 Mozambicans, said Admiral Ronald Edwards, former chief of the South African Navy and now secretary of a cabinet coordinating committee which, among other things, monitors the Mozambican influx.

Of these, some 70,000 are said to be working legally, mainly in gold and coal mines and on farms. There are a further 15,000 Mozambicans mainly employed as labour on farms in the Eastern Transvaal, Admiral Edwards said. They entered the country illegally but have been given provisional resident permits until the end of this year.

It is estimated that an additional 165,000 Mozambicans are illegally in South Africa earning a living of some kind outside the mines and the farms, mostly in the informal sector of the economy in the industrialized Johannesburg-Pretoria region, but also as far afield as Cape Town.

All these people are regarded as "economic migrants" by Pretoria. "Of the 310,000 Mozambicans here, we only regard about 60,000 as so-called refugees," Admiral Edwards said yesterday. "The Mozambique Government is-

self does not recognize them as refugees because that would mean admitting that they had fled their country. So it is hoist on its own petard."

Last year, some 24,000 Mozambicans entered South Africa illegally and just over 19,000 were "repatriated", Admiral Edwards said. Of the latter, about 30 per cent were intercepted as they crossed the border. The others were either picked up later or were people who had entered the country earlier and previously escaped detention.

One of the main routes into South Africa for people fleeing Mozambique is through the Kruger National Park, which shares a 190-mile border with south-eastern Mozambique.

Those who can evade patrols by the South African Army and the 200 or so park rangers, as well as attacks from game, either disappear into the hinterland or else seek sanctuary in Gazankulu, KaNgwane and KwaZulu homelands. Gazankulu is the only homeland with formal refugee camps.

Economic struggle, page 12

Chissano optimistic about the war

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mozambique's President, Mr Joaquim Chissano, ended a four-day visit to Zimbabwe yesterday, leaving behind indications of a greatly increased military offensive against the South African-backed rebels fighting his Government.

Observers here believe the year may see the turning point in the 10-year-old war that has devastated the country as

the Mozambique National Resistance ascended to control nearly all the countryside.

At a press conference and in an interview published in *The Herald*, Zimbabwe's main daily newspaper, Mr Chissano announced that Malawi, formerly accused of supplying the MNR with rear bases, had agreed to send its forces to join the war.

Mr Chissano also confirmed that

Tanzanian troops had started arriving in his country. Reports last week said up to 6,000 Tanzanians had arrived in the port of Quelimane.

Recently, he announced Mozambican armed forces had smashed what he described as South Africa's latest move to support the MNR.

Mr Chissano said the last three months had seen "most encouraging developments" in the war.

Railway refuge for war victims

From Paul Valley, Moatize, Mozambique

In the 3 ft space between the track and the abandoned railway wagons in the marshalling yards at Moatize in the north of Mozambique, 2,000 people are living, huddled with their few scraps of belongings.

About 800 more actually live inside the 70 rusting wagons themselves.

With the temperature at 99 F, some 500 others seek shelter from the sun in the shade of derelict cement silos, in the cabins of forklift trucks or in the homes of hospitable local people.

Moatize refugee camp in Tete province, not far from the border with Malawi, is the place where the plight of the refugees from the war in Mozambique finds its most disturbing illustration.

It is not just because here it is possible to see acute cases of malnutrition among children. It is not because one day in the pitiful hospital dispensary, which ministers to 8,000 registered refugees, there were only six doses of oral rehydration salts, the most elementary treatment for diarrhoea, the disease which is the biggest



Young Mozambican war refugees living under railway wagons in the marshalling yard at Moatize in Tete province.

killer of African children. Moatize is also a potent symbol of the fact that all this suffering is man-made.

Moatize is the site of the richest coal mine in Mozambique. In good years it has supplied all domestic needs and exports of \$14 million (\$2.9 million).

But for the past two years the railway which carried the coal has been closed by the attacks of the South African-backed guerrillas of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR). At first the coal

was stockpiled but now the mines are closed, except for maintenance. The wagons which carried the product are now the homes of peasant farmers whom the MNR have driven off their land, destroying millions of dollars' worth of crops.

The huge silos under which other refugees live once held cement from the Dondo factory at Beira. Today the factory, which depended upon Moatize coal power and on limestone from the quarry at Mwamba, is closed because the

rebels cut the railway line. Dondo earned \$5 million a year in exports; now cement is imported by armed convoy from Zimbabwe.

Today the marshalling yards, which were the centre of this economy, are idle, the points rusted and the tracks overgrown. They have, instead, become the unofficial transit camp for those refugees who fled to Malawi from the fighting in Zambezia, Tete and Niassa provinces and who are now gradually returning to Mozambique.

As widespread skirmishing between government and rebel forces continues they sit at Moatize in the hope of something better.

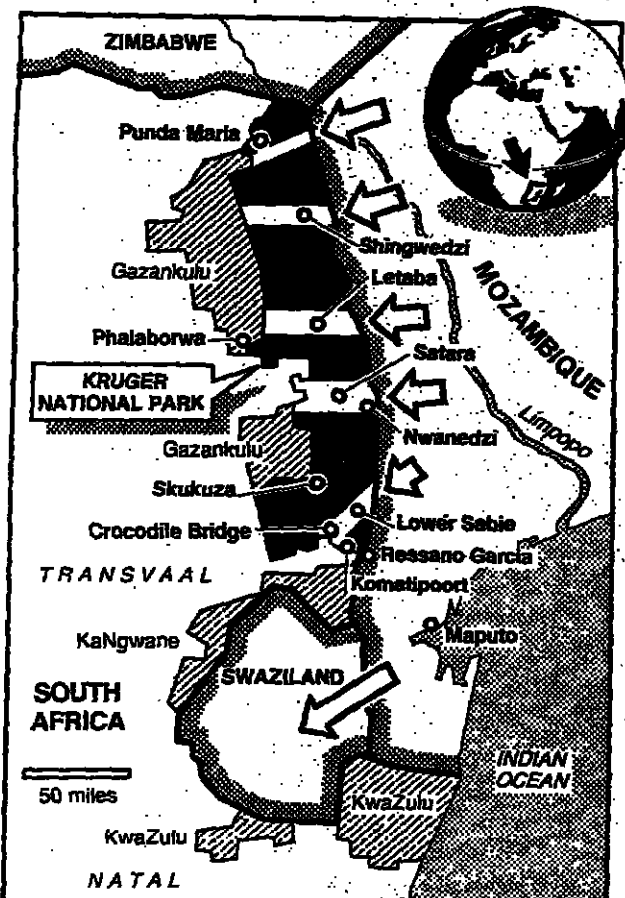
Few people are starving. International food aid is arriving via Zimbabwe in the convoys guarded by the Zimbabwean Army. But the refugees at Moatize are among an estimated 114,000 homeless people in Tete and there is not enough food to go around. They each receive 10 kilos of

maize a month, which is two-thirds of what is generally regarded as the bare minimum to sustain life. For some of the malnourished children that is not enough.

They need therapeutic feeding with a high-energy mixture of sugar, oil and milk. "We still have maize, but we ran out of sugar two weeks ago," said Mr Frederick Jimo, the camp administrator and himself a refugee from Milange in Zambezia. "We ran out of flour and beans then, too."

Moatize has no doctor. One from the French agency, Mécécine sans Frontières, visits occasionally, but the only regular facility is a single-room building and a tent which are staffed by two refugees with paramedic training. Their supply of drugs was pathetic. They had no bandages at all.

Every day another 50 desperate people find their way to Moatize from Malawi. There are estimated to be another 100,000 yet to arrive.



The Mozambique-South Africa border, with arrows showing main refugee "corridors" through the Kruger National Park to safety in the tribal homelands and Swaziland.

Ghana celebrates in spirit of hope

By Nicholas Beeson

Ghanaians will today celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of their nation's independence, hoping that they are finally emerging from the economic and political disasters which have marked much of their post-colonial history.

Ghana became the first colony in sub-Saharan Africa to win independence, when Britain left what was then the Gold Coast.

At that time the state was one of Africa's wealthiest, with rich mineral deposits, an economy based on a lucrative cocoa crop and a highly-educated middle class.

But 15 coups and eight changes of government later Ghana was left as one of the continent's most impoverished states.

The pan-African and socialist ideals of the founding father of modern Ghana, Dr Kwame Nkrumah, who ruled from independence until 1966, will be widely praised at ceremonies in Accra and across the country today, although few of his dreams have been fulfilled.

The current leader, Flight-Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, who seized power in a military coup in 1981, may publicly come across as another idealist, but Western diplomats and businessmen have a growing respect for his realistic

approach to tackling the country's greatest burden, its foreign debt.

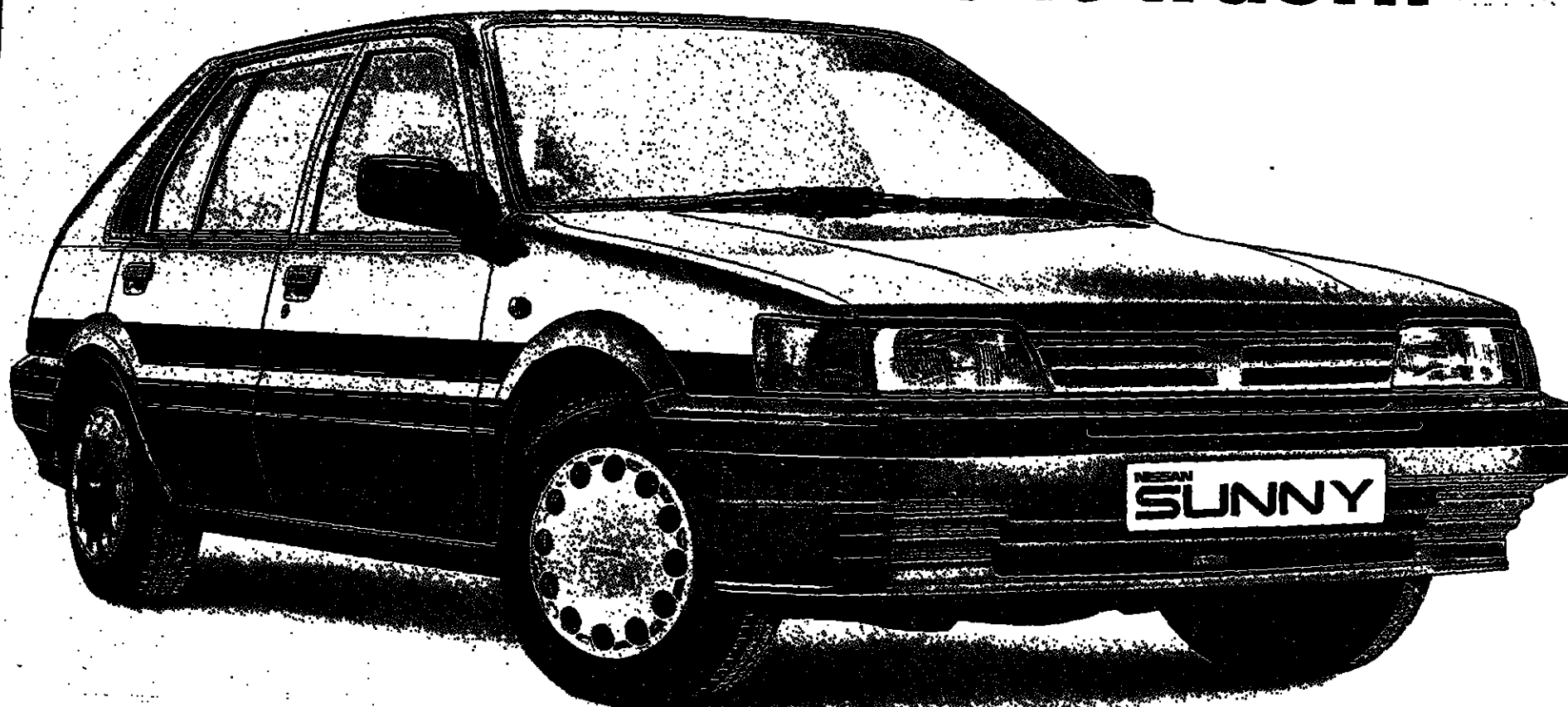
Mr Rawlings, aged 39, came to power with the image of a maverick revolutionary bent upon ridding Ghana of corruption and replacing the constitution with his self-styled Provisional National Defence Council, based on "leftist-populist" ideals.

Although he had popular support for his leadership, especially among the young, Ghanaians could have been forgiven for viewing their youthful leader, dressed in fatigues, with some scepticism.

But those fears were allayed when in 1983 Mr Rawlings introduced the economic recovery programme backed by the IMF and the World Bank, which began to tackle Ghana's foreign debt and £155 million outstanding import payments. Over the past three years the country has finally been showing signs of improvement. Between 1983 and 1986 the inflation rate was brought down from 120 per cent to 20 per cent, and the GDP steadily increased over the same period.

Western investors are being courted, and the Lonrho conglomerate is planning a £100 million investment at the Ashanti goldmine.

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Pomp, politics and pound notes

Next week Oxford University elects a new Chancellor. Four names are in the hat; only three have a real chance. Will the traditionalists outvote those who see fund-raising as the priority? Andrew Lycett reports

The next Chancellor of Oxford University sits in his favourite armchair and receives visitors in an adjacent sofa. That much is certain. Lord Blake's chair is large and formal, rather like his drawing room in the Provost's Lodge at Queen's College. In front of him is a full table of books, prominent among them his own *Dictionary of National Biography*.

Roy Jenkins's reception room in his spacious London flat gives on to a dining area. The atmosphere is cultured and busy — some modern paintings, photographs of grandchildren, small piles of books around the room (among them publications from the National Trust, headed by his wife, Dame Jennifer).

Edward Heath's smallish terrace house in Victoria is the most homely of the three. A cheerful Basque housekeeper brings tea. His armchair needs upholstering. Nevertheless his drawing room, with its unflattering drinks cabinet, its piano and its sailing mementoes, is spotlessly tidy. Only his downstairs breakfast room, strewn with papers and the ubiquitous book (in his case Anthony Howard's new biography of Butler) gives him away as a bachelor.

One of these three men is bound to be elected Chancellor of his old university next weekend. (The fourth candidate — a late entrant in the polls — is Dr Mark Payne, a Midlands GP, who specializes in alternative medicine and is campaigning on a platform of educational reform. He is unlikely to make much of a showing, though he claims a growing interest in his "breaking the mould" ideas.)

The office of Chancellor has existed since the founding of the university in the thirteenth century. Early holders were clerics, including two canonized saints; later they included such distinguished men as Oliver Cromwell, Lord North and the Duke of Wellington. Unlike Cambridge,

which goes for royalty, Oxford prefers tangibly political figures who can work for it in the corridors of power.

The three main candidates this year are distinguished and highly respected men, though none of them quite fits the imagination. Peter Pultzer, Professor of Government and Public Administration at All Souls, a Jenkins man himself, says: "All would do the job perfectly well. All would be a credit to the university. But it would be an exaggeration to say Oxford is burning with interest in the election."

Nevertheless, a forthright and typically Oxford campaign is coming to its climax. Each candidate has his committed band of supporters. In the nominations which have just closed, 430 Oxford MAs declared for Jenkins, 186 for Heath, 65 for Blake and two for Payne.

The contest is likely to be closer than that. It started discreetly. It is a fair bet that all candidates were thinking about standing before the previous incumbent, the Earl of Stockton, died in late December. (Jenkins admits as much.) But no one could be seen to make much running before Stockton's memorial service in February.

First off the blocks were Blake and Jenkins. Blake's candidacy was interesting. At the last election in 1960 the university (through its heads of colleges) put up its own candidate in Sir Oliver (later Lord) Franks. Hugh Trevor Roper, Regius Professor of Modern History, and others, dissented. They felt the chancellorship should go to "the Oxford man who most obviously combined public distinction with intellectual quality". They thought the nomination of Franks (by no means undistinguished) had been oligarchic. His politics were unclear. They proposed the then Conservative Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan, and campaigned actively and ultimately successfully for him.

This time Vice-Chancellor Sir



Aspiring to the dreaming spires: from left, Lord Blake, Edward Heath, Dr Mark Payne and Roy Jenkins

Patrick Neill decided against an official university candidacy. His immediate predecessor, Sir Geoffrey Warnock, Principal of Hertford College, thought differently. He argued that Oxford needed a Chancellor who knew its institutions well. He proposed Lord Blake, the Tory historian (and biographer of Disraeli), whose intellect, stamina and devotion to university administration are much admired.

"Long experience of political trench-warfare is not a qualification for (the job)," says Warnock. "It is an office of dignity and honour, an accolade, symbolic and representative of our university, and in electing to it we have the opportunity of showing what it is that we really value. That is, or ought to be, scholarship and civilization."

Warnock emphasizes Blake's commitment to the collegiate system. Queen's College, where Blake will shortly retire as Provost, and Christ Church, one of Oxford's richest and most powerful colleges, where he taught politics for most of his life, rallied behind him. Another notable supporter is the philosopher Lord Quinton, head of Trinity College.

Meanwhile Jenkins, the smoothest of the three, began making his mark. He picked up supporters ranging (at the latest count) from Professors Freddie Ayer and Isaiah Berlin to Lady Antonia Fraser and Iris Murdoch. He is strong in his own college, Balliol; but Heath is also a Balliol graduate and claims to have

substantial backing there. With his liberal record as Home Secretary in the 1960s, Jenkins is said to appeal to the growing constituency of women, though some blame him for the ills of the permissive society.

Jenkins clearly values the active support of Sir Alec Cairncross, until recently head of St Peter's College. Patrick O'Brien, an economic historian at St Antony's College, is an active campaign manager.

Neither Blake nor Jenkins at first quite addressed Oxford's central issue, particularly as perceived from its science faculty: cash. Since the university's colleges continue to inspire fierce loyalties, they are successful in winning endowments and additional financial support. However, centrally-funded responsibilities

such as the modernization of science laboratories and upkeep of buildings do not do so well. In addition they have suffered from government cut-backs over the past few years — the basis of the complaint against Mrs Thatcher when she was denied an honorary degree two years ago.

In the early stages of the campaign it was not certain whether Mrs Thatcher, the ghost at the feast, would stand herself. A spoiling operation, along the lines of the honorary degree campaign, was planned. Dr Jim Reed, a German tutor at St John's and editor of the *Oxford Magazine*, says: "Those of us most involved against Thatcher got together to decide what to do to scare her off this time." When it became clear that she was not prepared to court defeat at Oxford in a general election year, her opponents divided between Jenkins and the (by now declared) Heath. Some leftists could not stomach Jenkins and backed Heath, perceiving him as not only anti-Thatcher but the most willing and able to fight for funds for the university.

Blake, who is as genial as his supporters say, clearly realizes that funding has become an issue. He emphasizes that he is chairman of the Rhodes Trust (liaising with Rhodes scholars, largely in America) and deputy chairman of the Oxford Society. For a long time close to Mrs Thatcher, though ennobled by Heath, he notes: "Although I take the Conservative whip in the Lords, I have often been critical of their education policies. I think cutting university grants was somewhat harsh, insensitive and undiscriminating. I don't see myself as the deuterio-Thatcher candidate. I'm the academic candidate. I would be sorry if this turned into a by-election. I will get quite a lot of support if it does. The chancellorship should not be a political football."

Jenkins, the most political in manner, differs. "I strongly defend the Oxford tradition of electing political Chancellors, often quite controversial figures. The univer-

VOTING TIME

Today the Chancellor and the Professor of Poetry are the only offices voted for by the Convocation, a much-weakened body comprising 40,000 MAs of the university. Its members can vote on Thursday March 12 from 1.45 to 2.45pm and 3.30 to 4.30pm, and on Saturday March 14 from 9.30 to 10.30am, 11.45 to 12.45pm and 3 to 4pm. There is no voting on Friday because traditionally that is the day the university fasts. Academic gowns must be worn to vote.

sity now has a great question mark over its future, arising largely out of the inadequacy of its funding under a Conservative government. It is wrong to think that private fund-raising would be the answer to the university's problems. Its future depends much more on adequate government funding.

In the past year, in a perhaps not unrelated exercise, Jenkins has produced two volumes of his academic speciality — political biography. Blackwell's bookshop in Oxford displays these works (on Truman and Baldwin) prominently. No other candidate's books are in its windows. Maybe it knows something we don't, or maybe it is just closed to Balliol.

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Listen to the remedy of old Broadway

British shows have done it before. Peter Shaffer's *Equus* helped to turn round the last slump in 1976 and *Cats* is still the biggest current musical hit. But Broadway is counting almost religiously on *Les Misérables* and *Starlight Express*, both directed by Trevor Nunn, to emerge as mega-hits and rescue the Great White Way from its biggest slump for a decade.

Thanks in part to some deft marketing, *Les Mis* — as every taxi driver seems to call it — has notched up a record \$12 million dollars (£7.5 million)

Short of native hits, Broadway is counting on two British musicals, *Starlight Express* and *Les Misérables*, to transmute their magic into New York's beleaguered theatre land

worth of advance ticket sales, and there is still a week before it opens at the Broadway Theatre on March 12.

"It's quite mind-boggling to me," says Cameron Mackintosh, the 40-year-old producer, whose credits include *Cats* and *The Phantom of the Opera*, another London hit

due on Broadway later this year. The production, he says, has already cleared a million dollars profit in Washington and it is expected to recoup its \$4.5 million production cost in New York within 20 weeks. "It seems to have the right ingredients."

Starlight Express, the Andrew Lloyd Webber roller-skate extravaganza about a train race across America, has hauled in more than \$5 million in advance sales and orders are still booming despite a 10-day delay to the opening night (March 15).

With attendance declining and 13 of Broadway's 38 theatres in the dark, producers are hoping the new shows will repeat the miracle of *Equus* and the native musical *A Chorus Line* a decade ago. The two revived Broadway's fortunes at a time when a dearth of hits combined with the decay of the Times Square district and New York's financial crisis to close many theatres.

"With a major running hit, you're looking at \$22.5 million gross a year, 600,000 more people in the theatres," says Gerald Schoenfeld, chairman of the Shubert Organization, which owns 17 of the theatres. "With numbers like those, there will be no articles about how badly Broadway is doing."

But for the moment, bleak statistics suggest that Broadway is in a poor way. Ten years ago, 32 shows were running. Today there are 24. More than six million seats had been filled at this time in the season 10 years ago, compared with 4.6 million this year. The average ticket costs 30 dollars (about £19).

All four new American musicals on Broadway this season flopped, losing their backers a total of \$13 million. Kenneth Tynan's now weary nude review *Oh! Calcutta!* is still one of the biggest draws, packing in the out-of-towners. There have been only two British American plays and one British Shakespeare Company's *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, arriving from London at the end of April, is expected to do well.

While the producers blame soaring costs, the critics are pointing at a simple absence of talent. The loss is felt most strongly in the genre that Broadway invented — the musical. "Very few American shows have a contemporary sound and their music," Mackintosh says. The huge risks in staging anything new have stimulated revivals of old faithfuls including *Sweet Charity*, *South Pacific* and *42nd Street* — a trend that London audiences will recognize. There is very little on Broadway, in fact, that London audiences would not recognize.

Charles Bremner
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ALONG THE GREAT WHITE WAY

The following shows are running, or about to open, on Broadway:

- *Coastal Disturbances* at the Circle in the Square. Love story set on a beach.
- *Les Misérables* at the Broadway Theatre. British musical based on Victor Hugo story.
- *Starlight Express* at Gershwin. British musical by Lloyd Webber and Stigoo based on great train race.
- *Blithe Spirit* at the Neil Simon Theatre. Noel Coward comedy.
- *The Nerd at the Helen Hayes Theatre*. Comedy of architect meeting man who once saved his life.
- *Big River* at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre. Musical of Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*.
- *Broadway Bound* at the Broadhurst. Last part of Neil Simon's autobiographical trilogy.
- *La Cage aux Folles* at the Palace. Glossy gay romance set in the South of France.
- *Cats* at the Winter Garden. London musical by Lloyd Webber based on T.S. Eliot's poems.
- *A Chorus Line* at the Shubert Theatre. Musical of backstage romance.
- *Death and the King's Horseman* at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre. Tragedy of Nigerian tribe destroyed by imperialism.
- *Drood* at the Imperial. Musical based on unfinished Dickens novel.
- *42nd Street* at the Majestic. Revival of tap dance musical.
- *The House of Blue Leaves* at the Plymouth Theatre. Spooky and hilarious comedy.



Trevor Nunn: director of *Starlight Express* and *Les Misérables*

- *I'm Not Rappaport* at the Booth Theatre. Comedy about a Central Park friendship.
- *The World According to Me* at Brooks Atkinson. One-man show by comic Jackie Mason.
- *Life and My Girl* at the Marquis. Thirties musical based on Cockney who inherits aristocratic family title.
- *Oh! Calcutta!* at the Edison Theatre. Long-running erotic revue. Still best-seller.
- *Social Security* at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre. A comic look at sex, money art and motherhood in New York.
- *South Pacific* at the New York State Theatre. Revival of Hammerstein musical.
- *Stardust* at the Elgin Theatre. Musical revue.
- *Stepping Out* at the John Golden Theatre. Comedy as women from different backgrounds meet for tap-dance classes.
- *Sweet Charity* at the Minskoff. Revival of Neil Simon musical.
- *Sweet Sue at the Music Box*. The two characters of one person are acted out in a hot New York Summer.

Easy prey to progress

The survival of one of Britain's rarest and smallest hunting birds is under threat from modern farming and tree-planting methods

Alone among British birds of prey, the dashing little merlin — once the lady's bird of falconry — is failing to keep up its numbers. Not much bigger than a blackbird, yet fit for combat with any hefty crow, it has recently been the subject of intensive study by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Changes on moorlands where the merlin (*Falco columbarius*) breeds, particularly ploughing for crops and the growth of conifer plantations, do not suit it and the total population amounts to only about 600 pairs. It has been affected also by pesticides entering its food chain but, with luck, the banning of the worst of them will have reduced infertility.

Alan Woods, the RSPB's agricultural policy officer, said: "The merlin is not really holding its own and the last breeding season was very bad. We have identified what its habitat preferences are and these are under pressure."

In one study the society found that the moorland area

of mid-Wales had been reduced by 12 per cent in the last 14 years. Nearly two-thirds of the loss was due to agriculture and one-third to forestry.

Merlins, the males of which are distinguished by slate-blue upper parts and buff below, leave the moors for the winter and move on to coastal and lowland hunting grounds. It is there that they are most likely to be seen, for the bird is hard to track down on its home territory. Possibly, the merlin owes the *columbarius* (dove) part of its Latin name to its time of service as the falcon of sporting women, who liked the idea of linking it with a formidable large yet ladylike type of prey.

Soon it will be returning to the moors. What it will find there is a matter of some anxiety to ornithologists who believe that, in many places, the decline is nearing a point at which recovery will be difficult.

John A. Hill
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ACROSS

- Overbid house price (6)
- Absolute truth (6)
- Yeoman of the Guard commander (4)
- Tired by conflict (3,5)
- Romp (7)
- Protective case (5)
- Fixable constituency (6,7)
- Explode (5)
- Roman church HQ (7)
- Hostile (8)
- Lighting device (4)
- Perple (6)
- Interruption (6)

DOWN

- Engine room hand (7)
- Polish money unit (10)
- Capacity (5)
- Pierce with bull horns (4)
- High level land (7)
- Faithful (5)
- Vigilant (5)
- Swagger (5)
- German navy founder (7)
- Fox chase horses (7)
- Recreatory type (5)
- Muslim god (5)
- Pie shell (5)
- Crossed's port (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1198

ACROSS: 1 Before 4 Priest 9 Scratch 10 Piper 11 Atop 12 Tid-
ings 14 City slicker 18 Amharic 19 Draw 22 Robot 24 Conifer
25 Nature 26 Really
DOWN: 1 Bash 2 First 3 Rattletrap 5 Rap 6 Expense 7 Thrush
8 Shuntlecock 11 ADC 13 Decadence 15 Exhibit 16 Row 17 Pa-
uon 20 Awful 21 Drey 23 Tar

SATURDAY

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Kitchen or factory?

The days of kitchens with the working parts coyly hidden or disguised are numbered; now the ideal home will contain a designer food factory which makes a virtue of the bits that do the work. It is a culinary revolution with a designer price tag to match — and that can mean £25,000 at the top of the range.

Vintage Sundays by the case
The best rest day wine buys

Back in the USS Art
Inside Russia's treasure chest

FRIDAY PAGE



Priorities and perspective: Dr Eufion Gwynne Jones feels that the demands of a family and an executive role are not irreconcilable

Return to work on air

For most women, taking eight years off from a successful career to have a family would mean sacrificing any future job aspirations. To do so at the age of 40 would be considered professional suicide.

The fact that Dr Eufion Gwynne Jones did just that, and not only survived the lengthy career break, but subsequently rose to the peak of her profession, is an indication of her own talent and a shot of encouragement to other women in similar circumstances.

Just four years after rejoining the BBC on a freelance basis, 52-year-old Jones has become one of the most high-powered women in the organization. As Controller of Educational Broadcasting, she is responsible for all educational programmes on radio and television for both children and adults, producing an output of nearly 3,000 hours of broadcasting each year, including the BBC's programmes about Aids which are currently being screened and which are aimed at young people.

Taking over such a significant and wide-ranging job would be an awesome task for anyone less skilled or less in tune with the whole area of educating over the airwaves. For Jones, currently the only woman controller at the BBC, it is the logical conclusion to a career devoted to teaching by remote control.

"It is inconceivable for me to imagine a BBC that doesn't in some way support education," she says. And when she heard that her predecessor was leaving she immediately applied for the job of controller. "I felt it needed to be in good hands and that if I didn't make my hands available, at least for me to choose from, I would have no right to criticize anything that happened in the future."

She attributes her meteoric rise within the bureaucratic structure of the BBC, after an absence of eight years, to "other people's comings and goings."

"It's a question of timing - but not your own choice of timing - accidental timing. I had to make only two

Dr Eufion Gwynne Jones is the new Controller of Educational Broadcasting at the BBC. She talks to Sally Brompton about her eight-year break and how she came back at the top

choices of timing. The first was when I left the BBC - and that was because I was pregnant and I decided I didn't want to produce television programmes and bring up a family because, to me, that wouldn't be a compatible lifestyle. The other was when to go back. The only child of a miner who became an insurance agent, Jones grew up in the kind of close mining community in which everyone was "in and out" of each other's terraced houses. A chubby tomboy, her strict chapel upbringing enabled her to perfect extrovert skills such as public speaking early in life. It was not until she spent a year as a teaching assistant in an exclusive Massachusetts college that she became conscious of her working-class background. "It didn't bother me, but I think the wealthy students thought it was reasonably quaint. Probably the nearest thing they had ever seen to it was the film *How Green Is My Valley*."

Her mother, concerned that her daughter might decide to stay in America, bought her a weekly ticket to every event at that year's National Eisteddfod in Wales. "I liked that," says Jones, "a nice touch. And I came back."

Her original ambition was to be a doctor, but the girls' grammar school she attended did not include physics in the curriculum, so instead she got a doctorate in zoology at University

College, Cardiff, and decided to pursue her second interest, which was education. She joined the BBC as a £1,200-a-year general trainee in 1959, when schools broadcasting was just beginning and the BBC's education department needed people with a scientific background. Jones trained in schools television and then went on a directors' course. "I quite enjoyed the mix of education and television, but as I hadn't taught, except in America, I thought it would be a good idea to get some kind of experience in schools."

She asked to be transferred to schools radio which, since it was less complicated technically than television, would allow her the time to sit in on classes in primary schools. She continued to produce programmes, mainly scientific, for primary schools until 1964, when she moved back to television. It was the first time schools broadcasting aimed to take over a class rather than supplement regular teaching methods. "Teachers had no idea about science in those days."

In 1968 she married Michael Coyle, also a BBC schools science producer, and from then on "it was always on the cards that I would leave if we started a family, because I was pretty clear that I didn't want to do both."

She left the BBC in 1975 when her son, David, was born and found that it took her some time to get used to being at home full-time.

"It was very strange," she recalls. "It was the social side of work I missed. I can remember being extremely lonely at different points in the day - particularly at lunchtime and when I pushed David in his pram to the park and there was no one there. But slowly you begin to build up a network of friends in the community who would never otherwise have known."

She kept her hand in professionally by doing some freelance writing and the year before her son was due to start junior school, she began putting out feelers to see what job possibilities might be. She was invited back to the BBC on a part-time basis in 1983 to organize the switch to night-time transmissions for schools radio, and that led to her full-time return as assistant head of schools radio. In 1984 she became head of schools television, a job in which she would have happily remained, had not the post of controller become vacant.

"I felt that taking off those eight years to bring up David rounded me off as a person and, in a sense, that must help you when you are dealing with people," she says. "And being away from the BBC makes you much more objective about it and you retain a little bit of that objectivity when you come back; I don't think that does any harm."

Even so, she was greatly relieved to get back on the BBC career ladder. "That was just good fortune. But I had taken great efforts to keep in touch with education and broadcasting during those eight years, so that people still knew who I was."

She does not envisage any conflict between satisfying the demands of both her family and her executive role. "There is only a certain amount of yourself you can give to any job. My husband and my son are very important to me and I won't let them be threatened, but my job is also very important to me and I wouldn't want to do that inadequately. But it is not a position that is irreconcilable. You learn to give time when and where it is needed. You set your priorities."

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Raising the curtain on foreign fashion

The idea behind the launch of *Burda Moden* magazine in Moscow this week is to reach the parts of the world where off-the-peg fashions cannot reach. This glossy German magazine already has a world-wide market of 2.5 million copies a month in the sophisticated fashion nations, with a circulation of 20,000 in Great Britain. Its appeal lies mainly in the complex pattern supplements which are the heart of the *Burda Moden* operation.

Inside each magazine are poster-sized sheets of dress patterns, each one overlaid with up to 25 different designs. From this map of style, the home-dressmaker traces off the requisite pattern pieces, adapting the size as required.

"It is primarily aimed at people who want to make their own fashion," says Pamela Tasker, *Burda*'s product manager in Britain. "It includes men's and children's wear for people who want clothes to sew or knit at home."

More than 100 countries currently sell *Burda Moden*, which has launched editions in Greek, Arabic and even Serbo-Croat. The Russian distribution was initially 100,000; double that quantity have already been sold, despite the fact that *Burda* sells for 5 roubles (approximately £5), which is about ten times the price of other magazines.

It is difficult to believe that black-market prices are being paid for patterns of a striped tunic blouse, a cow-girl denim skirt or children's dungarees - but in a country where women are used to queuing and waiting for goods, the full colour photographs and presentation are revolutionary.

Suzy Menkes

This week a new fashion magazine was a sell-out in Moscow. Will style become the opium of the Soviet people?



НОВИНКА НЕЖНО-ГОЛУБОЙ И БЕЛЫЙ



Cover stories (top), 'New style blue and white' and patterns (below) from the Russian edition of *Burda*



If the world is divided into those who read the small print of instructions, and those who don't, wouldn't you imagine that it divides into those who never make a mess of things and those always yelling for help? Not necessarily.

My husband would never in a million years claim to be an instruction-reader or even naturally mechanically minded. He's usually a pretty lucky guesser; but a week ago, when asked to present the prizes at the local police boxing dinner, his luck finally petered out.

For a start he dashed off with the wrong evening suit, in heaviest ebony baroque, picked up that very day from the local Oxfam shop for £3.50. The trousers were perfect for a poorly fellow three inches shorter than my husband, but at that price who cared? They also had the additional advantage of several secret pockets in the jacket, one of which contained a slip of tissue paper typed

FIRST PERSON
Vivien Tomlinson

out with the words of "We'll All Go Riding on a Rainbow", and a P & O toothpick.

My husband had planned to change into his finery at the office; he discovered his mistake and at the same time realized he'd also not packed his black shoes. An odd, ancient dinner jacket was one thing, but scuffed ox-blood shoes were quite another. He'd dye them. Before the shops closed, he managed to buy a boxed bottle of black shoe dye.

Giving the bottle a good shake, he wondered how to apply it. One tidy-minded secretary always kept a stack of tissues on her desk. These would do. On went the dye, gloriously black - and so quick. Time was running very short now, and there was still the matter of his blackened hands. Neither hot water,

liquid soap, scrubbing brush nor scouring powder shifted the stains. And these were the hands to present silver cups.

Climbing into his abbreviated trousers and lacing up still-wet shoes, he practised a Chaplinesque semi-strut to divert attention from his lower half and blackened hands. It did, he told me the next day, work a treat. No body noticed him at all. By the time he arrived, they'd already asked a visiting Chief Inspector to hand out the trophies. The first person he spotted was the local reporter in a dinner jacket, frilly shirt and brown shoes.

Next morning, as he cleared away the ripped dye-carton and black-and-white tissues from his desk, he was amazed, he says, to come across the still neatly-folded instructions and a small plastic spatula with spongy end. He has, though, learned a thing or two. He now knows every word of "We'll All Go Riding on a Rainbow". And his teeth are spotless.

The best and worst defence

Last week Miss Linda Hewlett, aged 31, walked free out of the Old Bailey after being convicted of attempted murder. The judge had given her three years' probation for stabbing her sleeping lover, Mr John Horne, in the neck. I mulled this over, deciding finally that the sentence was perfectly appropriate. After the tiff, during which Horne was saved by the screams of his pet poodle who had an aversion to blood, Horne was reconciled with Miss Hewlett. They are presently living together.

I sympathize with the court that does not wish to interfere in the domestic arrangements of people who have resumed co-habitation. If Horne wishes once more to put his neck on

the pillow next to Hewlett, that is his business.

But though the judge and I agreed on the sentence, we listened to different dramas.

Mr Justice John Leonard's reason for the sentence had nothing to do with the right of mutually consenting adults to co-habit in perilous circumstances. His reasons were of a gynaecological nature. Hewlett was depressed after the birth of her twins three months earlier. She was irritated by Horne's lack of interest in her obstetric complications. "He never asked me how I was after the operation," explained Hewlett. "I could not face another day of him saying 'Have you done the vacuuming, have you dusted?'" The judge ac-

cepted that Hewlett was suffering from post-natal depression heightened by premenstrual syndrome. Ergo, she got off.

In 1981 there was quite a fuss over the use of premenstrual syndrome (PMS) as a defence in our courts. That was when Mrs Kristine English got into her car and ran over her lover, after he had told her that he was going out with another woman.

The courts did not give English a reduced sentence because her boyfriend was a cad, which would have been my preference; she was conditionally discharged because she convinced the court that PMS had led to diminished responsibility - even though she had threatened to run the boyfriend over earlier in the day, which might have been taken as evidence of premeditation. In a tough move, the court banned English from driving for a year. She is now, perhaps, whizzing about our roads in a happier frame of mind.

A rash of articles appeared on PMS. A Harley Street specialist, Dr Katharina Dalton, said a significant number of women in prison committed their crimes during their pre-menstrual phase.

Dr Dalton also gave examples of recurring bizarre behaviour perfectly in tune with her theory. We were all urged to take PMS seriously. Well, I always have. Society didn't need medical science or Harley Street to tell us that menstrual and pre-natal cycles affect moods.

But this all seems beside the point to me. If you are criminal to begin with, I suppose it is as likely as not that the menstrual period may well be the time when your criminal tendencies come to



BARBARA AMIEL

the fore. Most people aren't criminal day and night and they may well exhibit their ugliest instincts when the hormones start throbbing - or when there is a full moon, which is the derivation of the word "lunatic". Dr Dalton's examples of bizarre pre-menstrual behaviour are credible simply because the sufferers' actions are irrational and don't further their own interests. Her PMS victims, suffering from acute hormonal imbalances, set fire to their bedding, or try to drown themselves.

The people in our courts, on the other hand, perform perfectly rationally. There is nothing confused about their actions. They stab or murder the man that double-crosses them, not the postman who says, "Good morning" the wrong way. They steal a dress that fits them, not a bushel of widgets.

As to the statistics on female prisoners committing their crimes in the pre-menstrual period, what does that tell us? I suspect that if a study were made of all male prisoners, it would show that the majority of them committed a crime

after their girlfriends had yelled at them, rather than when she had made them a full meal. But it isn't the nasty mood that creates the criminal, but rather the criminal that emerges in the bad mood.

It's not that PMS doesn't exist; it is just that it is so awesomely irrelevant. What is so irritating about all this is the double standard. If a man dismissed or refused to promote Miss Jones because her moods were so black during her period that she simply couldn't schedule a board meeting with any confidence, he'd be hauled in front of an industrial tribunal.

If employers advertised for male researchers only, because they feared absenteeism on a female's "off" days, the Equal Opportunities Commission would go into orbit. It's the old story; any difference that gives a woman an advantage is allowed. The same difference cited to disadvantage a woman is taboo.

Human emotions are a minefield and it seems to me a decent thing to take them into account when sentencing. But if I were to get hauled into a criminal court after acting on my worst instincts, and slugging the husband who drops me for a prettier woman, I'd prefer to get a reduced sentence for the right reasons. I think logic is better served if a court shows some limited sympathy because it understands the provocation engendered by the man who tells you that he prefers the omelettes cooked by the ravishing redhead he's just met to your best nouvelle cuisine, than for pop sociological reasons such as PMS. Used in the courts like this, PMS is a two-edged sword and one that can only rebound against women's interests.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Shades of Nye

As the Labour Party continues its Greenwich post-mortem, one of the folk heroes of the left, Aneurin Bevan, comes in for a drubbing. SDP-supporter John Campbell's *Nye Bevan and the Mirage of British Socialism*, the first unofficial biography, to be published later this month, paints him as "an irresponsible polemicist... dedicated to seizing power" who "died knowing that the idea for which he had lived had failed utterly to win the adherence of the class it was supposed to benefit". The book has already infuriated one of his disciples, Barbara Castle. "It's ridiculous," Lady Castle told me yesterday. "Nye Bevan's analysis of society is as valid as ever, and becomes more valid every year. He will be immortalized for the National Health Service and if he had lived he would have been one of the most creative prime ministers." Bevan's official biographer, Michael Foot, and his widow, Jennie Lee, are not commenting, so far.

● Demand for the Tower report on President Reagan's "management style" is spreading. Already leading off inquiries, Alan Armstrong bookshops start selling copies in Britain next week at around £20.

Lonely Alliance

Gallup's opinion pollsters, who last week conducted a poll for a BBC television programme about AIDS, have made an intriguing breakdown. Having asked interviewees both their political affiliation and the number of sexual partners they have had in the past year, they correlated the results. And it is Alliance supporters who appear to have the loneliest lives: 28 per cent had no sexual partners and only 6 per cent two or more. Of Labour's faithful, 26 per cent declared themselves chaste and 9 per cent boasted of two or more lovers. In surprising contrast, 10 per cent of Conservatives claimed two or more partners; only 19 per cent slept alone. However, the sexiest lot of all are the nationalists: 20 per cent told Gallup they had two or more lovers.

Identity crisis

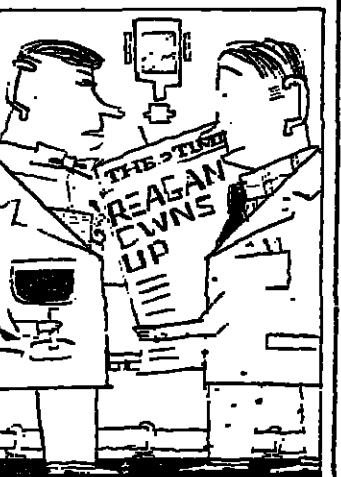
Neil Kinnock must have rued a gesture of genuine magnanimity in the Commons this week, following Labour's defeat in the Greenwich by-election. Arriving in the chamber on Wednesday evening, Kinnock spotted an unfamiliar figure, wearing a frock in Alliance gold, whom he took for Rosie Barnes. Striding over, he greeted her with a cheery "Congratulations, love!" The Alliance victor in the Ryedale campaign last year, Elizabeth Shields (for it was she), replied: "You're 10 months too late, Neil."

● The Irish Georgian Society has just revised its membership rates. Individual membership is £10 a year; life membership is £1,000. Don't all rush, now.

Right out

A split in the National Front has left Patrick Harrington, the student who brought classes at North East London Polytechnic to a halt three years ago, outside the main body of the party. The schism has come to light after the issuing of a statement by the Harrington wing disowning Joe Pearce, the NF's candidate in the Greenwich by-election (PHS, February 19). Responding to what looked like a declaration of war, Pearce, who last week polled 103 votes in Greenwich, claims Harrington's faction has the loyalty of only 20 per cent of NF branches in the country. Pearce's wing, under the chairmanship of Martin Wingfield, met in London in January, and declared the rival faction's attempted coup last year — while Pearce was languishing in prison for a race relations offence — unconstitutional. It was there that Pearce's official candidature was announced.

BARRY FANTONI



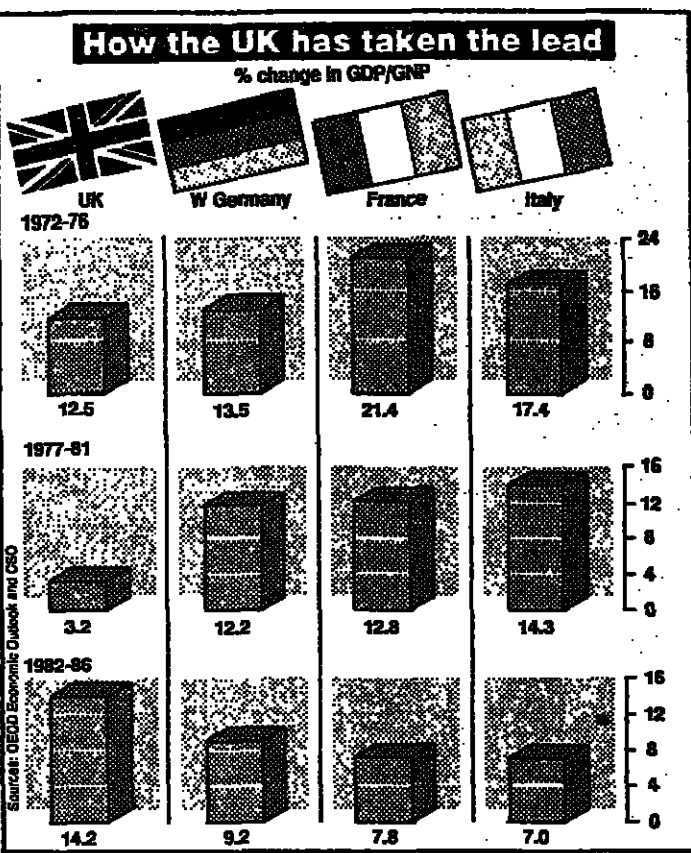
'He really must be losing his grip.'

Louw profile

Winnie Mandela's warm approval of a book espousing the free market as a solution to apartheid (PHS yesterday), has left political observers baffled. But there may be a simple explanation. Mrs Mandela's six-year-old granddaughter is a pupil at a mixed-race private school in Johannesburg set up by Frances Louw, the wife of P. W. Botha. Louw, the author of *After Apartheid: The Solution*, they tell me, Mrs Mandela is a "close friend". "We discussed our ideas and she liked them. So we persuaded her to write a foreword," says Louw, who is also head of the Free Market Foundation.

Thatcher's rejuvenation cure

Tim Congdon disputes the popular 'sick man' image of Britain



1986 is examined, economic growth in the four large European countries was broadly similar, at about 11 or 12 per cent. However, there is every likelihood that in 1987 national output will rise more in the UK than in the three others, with most private forecasts suggesting growth here of between 3 and 3½ per cent compared with between 2 and 2½ per cent on the Continent.

So the UK will have a lead over a six-year period from 1982 to 1987. When a country is at the top of a growth table for such an extended period, it becomes implausible to say that its position is a statistical artefact based on the particular period chosen.

Instead, something fundamental, and quite unexpected, must have happened. There is a short, if hardly uncontroversial, answer. It is that the Thatcher government has pursued economic policies which were intended to create a more congenial environment for enterprise, sav-

ing and growth, and that is exactly what they have done.

They can be described as supply-side, in the best sense of that term. They have created new business opportunities by the removal of restrictions and controls, and so improved the climate in which companies operate.

There is no decisive way of proving that the Thatcher reforms government have encouraged growth. If people do not want to be convinced that privatization, trade-union reform and economic liberalization have had a connection with faster growth, they will not be convinced.

But it is easy to argue that the privatization of major industries has given their managers new freedoms and incentives which have led to better business practices; that trade-union reforms have reduced the number of strikes and low inflation has quietened the mood of collective bargaining; that financial liberalization has intensified competition between

banks, building societies and other institutions to the benefit of the consumer; that the removal of wage and price controls has enabled managements to offer workers more money, buy out restrictive practices and improve industrial productivity; and that the robust management of organizations such as British Steel, British Coal and Leyland has resulted in better use of resources.

Much has been made of the alleged divisiveness of the Thatcher government's policies. Contrasts between the prosperity of the City and the plight of manufacturing industry, and between the affluent south and the depressed north, have become the staple fare of *Panorama*, *Newsnight* and Channel 4 news. But the media have been silent about recent developments that contradict these stereotypes.

It is interesting, for example, that little comment has appeared about the decline in import penetration in the car industry since the middle of last year. One consequence of this change, combined with the opening of the Nissan factory in Tyne and Wear and increased export sales at Jaguar, is that car production seems set to rise from about one million a year at present to between 1.3 million and 1.4 million in the early 1990s.

There is one valid and important criticism of the government's policies — or, at any rate, of the direction they have recently taken. Its success in curbing inflation was based on careful restraint of credit and money. This restraint has broken down since the middle of 1985, a lapse reflected most ominously in the 18 per cent growth rate of broad money.

Perhaps the present upturn in business activity depends on this deterioration in monetary control, with people having more money than they expected and spending freely. One caution against too much jubilation about the UK's better growth record is that the weakening of monetary control has been accompanied by rising inflation. Scarcely any reasonably doubt the success of the rejuvenation therapy if the sick man shows signs of slipping back to his bad old habits so soon after his supposed return to health.

The author is chief economist at Shearson Lehman Brothers International Group, London, and L. Messel & Co.

David Watt

The perils of a zero-zero draw

Though the Western military establishment and the French government are overwhelmingly suspicious of the new Soviet "zero-zero" disarmament offer, the politicians are going to end by snapping it up.

It does not require much political genius to work out why this is an almost certain bet. President Reagan is absolutely desperate for an international success to restore his prestige. His hawkish defence advisers are prepared to let him have it on the medium-range missiles in Europe because these do not directly affect American security. As Paul Warnke, President Carter's arms-control negotiator, remarked the other day, "For us, these European missiles are a sideshow."

Western European politicians are not going to let the opportunity slip, either. They live in a psychological environment of a strong desire for East-West détente. The cruise and Pershing missiles have never been popular in Europe, even among people who are persuaded they were necessary, and anyone who plausibly claims that they can now be safely removed is going to be a lot more popular than someone who says the opposite.

Mrs Thatcher in particular is not, on the verge of an election, about to risk the odium of being the one to bring the deal to nothing on the contrary, she has been planning for months to reap handsome electoral dividends from a "successful" trip to Moscow at the end of this month and would have been delighted if the Russians had been considerate enough to postpone their proposal for a month so that she could take credit for it.

How irresponsible is all this? The important thing to remember is that the politico-psychological case for the original deployment of the missiles was always stronger than the military one — and even the political case was not all that watertight. The soldiers have never been able to explain satisfactorily why the American president is any more likely, in the case of a Soviet invasion, to fire American-owned missiles if they are positioned in Europe than he is to fire them from the continental US or from the sea — or why they would be significantly more effective if he did.

The politicians have been on stronger ground in arguing (a) that people feel safer, however irrationally, if there is a more or less symmetrical US-Soviet "balance" on European territory; and (b) that the presence of American rockets makes the US commitment to Europe feel more substantial both to the Europeans and to the Russians. But the fact that most of these same politicians endorsed Reagan's own offer in 1981 of a "zero-zero" deal to remove the missiles shows that they really gave up on this last argument much earlier than they said they did: you do not offer to give away a key card even if you think your opponent is unlikely to accept it.

All in all, therefore, it will not be the end of the world if what was primarily done was for psychological reasons of uncertain validity — rather than for strategic ones — and is undone for very similar motives. We shall, in reality, be very little safer or less safe if the cruises and Pershing go, but we may, in the present climate, feel safer, and NATO's internal political strains may therefore be marginally less. What matters is that we do not let these same political impulses now roll on to damage the fundamental bases of our security in Europe.

These fundamentals are, first, the means to deter Soviet first use of nuclear weapons, and secondly, the means to counter-balance, at reasonable economic cost, the strategic superiority of the Soviet Union in conventional weapons, population, and geographical location. The INF missiles are not in themselves crucial to either of these requirements; we can do without them.

What we cannot do without are one or other of the following: either an East-West agreement which takes care of these concerns, or large numbers of American troops on the soil of Europe, American nuclear weapons that will match the Soviet arsenal and a clear commitment that they will be used to defend us. If we cannot have these, then we must have an effective nuclear capability in our own European hands and a far costlier European conventional army than anyone has yet envisaged.

The danger at present is that the euphoria surrounding an INF agreement may (as the Russians frankly hope) create an unstoppable slide towards a situation in which none of these alternatives is available to us. The worst case is one in which the Americans, under the next president, go from an INF deal to one on short-range weapons, and then to a more radical one on strategic weapons. The Russians manage to resist any reduction in their conventional superiority; there is a super-power understanding on third-party nuclear weapons which effectively restricts the development of the British and French deterrents; and meanwhile political pressures on defence budgets prevent any serious improvement of NATO's conventional forces. Europe, in short, would become a nuclear-free zone but without any real safeguards required to make safe, strategic sense of that ideal.

We are a long way from this nightmare scenario. American nuclear submarines will continue to cruise off European shores; NATO conventional forces, bolstered by tactical nuclear weapons, will suffice for deterrent purposes for the moment; the British and French safety nets will remain in place. But since all these familiar landmarks have already been marked for negotiation and possible demolition, the French are right to remind us that we cannot afford to lose sight of essentials — even (or especially) in a time of hope.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

The spark to set the shires aflame

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday rose to speak the words which would once more set aflame every chair and cushion: "With permission, Mr Speaker, I should like to make a statement about rate support grant."

For the second time in less than a generation, it had fallen to Mr Ridley to make the grim announcement. Or, to be more precise, the second time in a couple of months. In fact, he is always having to make statements about rate support grant.

The issues which led to yesterday's were complex. It will be for the historians to apportion praise and blame. In previous years, the Schleswig-Holstein Question, and the status of Bosnia, were on the face of it impenetrable, strictly local conflicts which somehow drew the Great Powers into collision with catastrophic results. Rate support grant plays much the same malign role in our own epoch. It is capable of bringing legislation into conflict with the law of setting Kensington and Chelsea at the throat of Islington, parts of the world which would normally know nothing of each other's existence.

This latest crisis was about whether the London Borough of Greenwich should pay back to central Government certain monies paid in error for roads which were later found not to exist. Mr Ridley demanded the money back. Greenwich admitted that the money had been paid in error. But the borough is ruled by a traditionally anti-Ridley power (the Labour Party). It refused to pay it back. In the view of the Ridley general staff, this could mean that peace-loving Tory boroughs might lose money. Against such aggression, Mr Ridley sought to arouse the conscience of the civilised world — that is, he took the matter to the High Court.

The court ruled that Mr Ridley had no power to get the money back. Yesterday he said he would appeal against the court judgment. But it was "necessary to amend the rate support grant figures", he would be submitting "revised figures", he somberly announced.

The Labour Party, led by Dr John Cunningham, its chief spokesman on the Environment, spent half an hour accusing him of incompetence. On the issue of whether Greenwich should be allowed to keep money paid in connection with roads which do not exist, the Opposition avoided direct comment. But many Labour councils spend money on racism awareness, sexual harassment prevention, black studies, and similar subjects which do not really exist. So there seemed no serious inconsistency.

Dr Cunningham made much of a pronouncement, accusing the Government of being "haphazard" about local government, issued that day by the Tory Reform Group. Triumphantly, he pointed out that the Tory Reform Group's sponsors included Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and Lord Whitelaw, the deputy Prime Minister.

Tory backbenchers shouted that those figures were just sponsors of the Tory Reform Group, not in this particular pronouncement. In fact, the ministers referred to are members of the so-called "loony centre" which is giving such a bad name to the Tory Party. They have no influence on the party leadership.

Concerning the taxi scandal, referred to here yesterday, there were further developments. The scandal is the proposal that from now on only MPs and other privileged groups should be allowed to queue for taxis at the Commons instead of journalists and other tradespeople. Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton Lab), the people's champion in this matter, raised the issue yesterday with Mr Biffen, the Leader of the House.



Victims of the rebel onslaught: a family of five in their tiny makeshift hut in a resettlement camp

Will war wreck Mozambique's IMF recovery?

part its policies were playing in all this. That year they denationalized the retail trade, introduced rationing, reintroduced some wage incentives and appealed for foreign investment.

A bigger shift came in 1983, when the fourth party congress, showing a capacity for self-criticism remarkable in a Marxist establishment, launched a campaign of encouraging private farmers and switching from large to small-scale projects.

The West began looking for more rapid progress. President Samora Machel's government responded with moves to give incentives to farmers by loosening the bonds of price control. The private sector was allowed to receive foreign aid and the threat of future nationalization was lifted. Foreign investors were guaranteed that profits would not have to remain in Mozambique.

The process reached its climax three months ago, with the IMF agreement in which the government undertook to close its budget deficit by raising taxes, cutting imports, devaluing the metical, increasing exports by liberalizing agricultural prices still further, raising rents and food prices, and slimming down the civil service.

In the words of one observer: "There can be no doubt of the seriousness of the government's intentions. The atmosphere is very different now. It's a tremendous revolution."

Devaluations totalling 420 per cent have already occurred and more are due. Prices to farmers for rice and maize were trebled last week. Lay-offs have started in

some sectors. "We have faith that the other changes will be carried out," one western financier said. There may be room for disagreement concerning the desirability of all this. Countries such as Zambia, Zaire and Ghana, which have conscientiously followed IMF austerity prescriptions in recent years, seem to have found them inadequate to deal with long-term structural imbalances. Often the medicine seems worse than the disease and the IMF is under increasing criticism for the rigidity of its approach, which excludes all strategic and political considerations. But what is in no doubt in Maputo is the effect of the new economics on the nation's politics.

The remaining headline Marxists in the politburo are trying to put on a brave face and speak of a tactical retreat. The West seems confident that the pro-Soviets are now out of favour. One American diplomat said: "We feel that the impact of the IMF measures and the consequent conversion of the economy to a capitalist base will bring radical political shifts."

Already there is some evidence of that. In recent years the Mozambique government has switched its UN vote on both Afghanistan and Cambodia from an anti-American one to an abstention. American diplomats are also reported to be pleased that the recent general election was considerably more free than in the past. "It may not be American-style," another diplomat said, "but it was a lot better than the tightly controlled 1977 elections. This time around 30 per cent of all those elected were not party

members. Some were businessmen and private farmers."

Despite the fact that Mozambique receives around £128 million in Russian aid, it has always maintained a certain distance from Moscow, repeatedly denying requests for a Soviet military base at the northern port of Nacala, said to be the best deep-water port on Africa's east coast.

Recently that distance has increased. A "tremendous insult" was delivered to the new Soviet ambassador, who was kept waiting for two months before being allowed to present his credentials. Privately, eastern bloc diplomats in Maputo speak of the situation with deep gloom.

The danger now is that the progress that has been made could be jeopardized by the war. Extreme conservative opinion in the US, led by a right-wing pressure group, the Heritage Foundation, is trying to make a case for America's backing the MNR, as it does the Unita rebels in Angola. But informed diplomatic opinion in Maputo dismisses such an option as "armchair strategy".

There is no parallel between Angola and Mozambique. In Angola the Soviets are fighting a proxy war — with £1.3 billion of aid and 30,000 Cuban troops — against a section of the original liberation movement. Unita's Jonas Savimbi is a leader in clear control of his forces, and has a functioning administration.

"The MNR, on the other hand, is little more than a collection of warlords," said a former senior State Department official. "Some of them indulge in straightforward banditry, those who claim to be politically motivated have no coherent policy. There is no effective leadership which can issue effective commands. Nor is there any evidence of popular support, as there is in Angola."



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AFTER THE ADDRESS

President Reagan went on television on Wednesday evening to save his presidency. He took on the American public on his own terms. A president of proven television skills, he did what he does best: speaking to his fellow Americans from a prepared script. And he did what his audience had been willing him to do: he repented of the errors identified by the Tower Commission and pledged to learn from them. He promised to be a better president.

At the end of his 12-minute address there was no doubting his good faith, his amiability or his strength of character. He faced his personal critics, like his political critics, head on. To Americans, still mindful of how the Nixon and Carter presidencies ended, such qualities count for much.

But there was no doubting either that he was still vulnerable. He might, it had been chosen to, have mounted a stronger defence of the initial decision to talk to Iranian leaders. The strategic importance of Iran, the advisability of preparing, however discreetly, for a post-Khomeini Iran and the fact that the Soviet Union was engaged in just such preparations, made a re-opening of links with Iran eminently defensible.

The fact that the President chose a personal (his own preoccupation with the welfare of US hostages), rather than a political defence, showed a shrewd assessment of his

strengths. But it also laid bare a weakness. While he accepted overall responsibility for the administrative failures itemized by the Tower Commission, he nonetheless appeared still unaware of their wider implications. Yet it was just such a lack of awareness that lay at the heart of the Tower Commission's criticism.

Whatever the reaction at home (and so far it seems to have been good) it will take more than a single speech to restore credibility abroad, particularly among the allies. The most immediate test of that credibility is the US response to Mr Gorbachev's most recent arms control proposals. Washington's further conduct of the Geneva talks and the President's interest in them will show how far he has been able to turn his back on the weakness of the past and take a firm grip on the essentials of his country's foreign policy.

The risk — and it must be a risk the Soviet leader has calculated for — will be that he tries to snatch a diplomatic coup too soon. An arms control agreement and an early summit in Washington might indeed help to re-establish President Reagan on the world stage and so enhance his authority.

A precipitate arms agreement, however, concluded over the heads of his European allies and, perhaps, in contravention to their interests would not serve either

the President or his country. It would be seen in time for what it was: a panic reaction in which short-term personal and national concerns were placed above longer-term interests of alliance, and ultimately of global security. To rush from insufficient involvement to over-reaction is no answer.

It is now up to President Reagan, as he reorganizes his White House staff and his officers in the National Security Council, to devise and oversee the policies that will see the Western alliance into the next administration. Operationally, he has not only to introduce the recommended changes in the working of the NSC (to which he has pledged his unconditional support), but also make them work.

The chief danger on the way, will be a quest for change and action — at almost any cost. President Reagan has expressed satisfaction that nearly half the staff of the NSC has been replaced since the disclosures about US arms sales to Iran became public. Many of his most senior advisers have left.

One neglected aspect of the Tower report is its warning about the lack of "institutional memory" in the National Security Council. A new beginning, however desirable, will not of itself have the desired effect. If the lessons of the arms-for-Iran affair are to be learned, the memory of it must be preserved.

LABOUR IN THE CITY

Recent City scandals provide a powerful stick for the Labour Opposition to beat a Government that is too closely associated, in the mind of voters, with the interests and attitudes of the world of finance. The very title of Labour's new policy document *Making the City Safe* exposes the embarrassment of the Government over abuses in the securities market — even though small investors have suffered little from them — at a time when it is trying to encourage mass share owning.

But Labour too is faced with some embarrassment in formulating a policy towards the City. For, whatever the perils of guilt by association, the Government can generally be proud of the measures it has taken to protect investors and promote clean, competitive markets, culminating in the recently passed Financial Services Act.

The two-tier framework of regulation now being set up under the Act stands up well to scrutiny in the light of recent events and has already provided powerful new tools to bring abuses to light through greater disclosure. The Department of Trade can now investigate suspect behaviour, including charges of insider trading, more swiftly and effectively.

Supervised self-regulation combines the benefits of individual trades ruling themselves with close supervision

by a Securities and Investment Board. The Board is appointed by the Trade Secretary and the Governor of the Bank of England with devolved statutory powers.

Whatever the political rhetoric, Labour has wisely decided to stick broadly to this system, concentrating changes in regulation on a few real or perceived weaknesses. Since Professor Jim Gower first drew up the framework on which the Act is based, it has seemed more a matter of political preference than vital practical importance whether the Securities and Investments Board is a government agency funded by the taxpayer or carries devolved statutory authority and is paid for by the City. The present system looks more flexible and less prone to casual political interference. But a state agency might be able to impose a wider range of quasi-judicial penalties — such as fines — on miscreants.

There will be less quarrel with Labour's plan to bring Lloyd's and the City Takeover Panel within the ambit of the SIB. The Lloyd's insurance market was left out originally because including it would have further delayed already complex legislation. The more modest changes recommended for Lloyd's by Sir Patrick Neill are inferior to supervised self-regulation but easier to make.

The City Takeover Panel, which represents all the City

interests involved in takeovers, has responded swiftly to adjust its rules and strengthen its monitoring role after the weaknesses exposed, in particular, by the Guinness affair. In order to regain the high status it had under Lord Shawcross, it is more in need of stronger personalities at the top than a changed structure.

Its position, however, within the hierarchy of regulation (broadly under the aegis of the Bank of England) has become anomalous because the SIB has now superseded the voluntary City body of which it was part. Moreover, even the Governor of the Bank of England has made it clear that the Panel would need statutory powers unless merchant bankers and stockbrokers showed greater respect for its authority.

Labour's tentative plans for compulsory non-executive directors and further powers to delist behind nominee names are widely shared in the City and in Whitehall and changes will probably be made regardless of the election outcome. Action to end abuse of investor protection laws through use of offshore centres will be hard to realize without more far-reaching changes. But most people in the City will feel more relaxed about Labour's plans to regulate their activities to protect investors than almost anything else in the party's programme.

THE ANTIBIOTIC PARADOX

Only doctors well on their way to their sixties can remember what the world of medicine was like before antibiotics. The extra power for good that the new drugs put into the hands of the profession was exhilarating, magical. They made it possible for the first time to mount aggressive, as distinct from defensive, campaigns against a wide range of conditions, pneumonia, life-threatening epidemics and widespread minor infections.

Our series this week about antibiotic-resistant germs has traced the way in which too much of the value of this precious resource has been thrown away by misuse. The problem is as yet a potential rather than an actual one, because the chemists have been able to keep a step ahead of the bacteria by developing enough new forms of drug to keep resistant strains under control. But the line between success and failure has often been alarmingly thin, and there is no law of nature which guarantees that an answer will always be found.

The fight that doctors received in the early years, when it became apparent just how quickly resistance could spread, brought about major changes in attitudes and practice in Britain and most developed countries. But clinical practice still often falls far

short of the ideal, both in developed countries and to a far greater extent in the third world.

There is casual misuse of antibiotic drugs in a number of countries, whose governments have culpably failed to impose controls which would help to protect their usefulness. It is bound to be counter-productive in the end for third-world employers to house their workforce in squalid conditions and attempt to hold the natural consequences at bay by keeping them on a sustained diet of antibiotics.

But a campaign to press developing countries to introduce safeguards comparable to those which are routine in developed countries would create a danger of other catastrophes, less dramatic and perceptible to the outside world than an epidemic of resistant bacteria, but just as costly in human suffering. Third world countries do not have the resources to send doctors out to every village, backed up with the laboratory skills of advanced medicine, to ensure that drugs are dispensed with maximum effect and minimum risk of resistance.

Nor might it be much help. Resistance is not a single phenomenon. The resistances that may appear during a typhoid epidemic in Central

America are unlikely to be threatening in London hospitals (where antibiotic use will in fact be far more intense) — nor vice versa.

Similar dilemmas exist within relatively wealthy countries. The hard-pressed inner-city GP, faced with a child in pain, will normally give the interests of his patient priority over any hypothetical general good and prescribe a broad-spectrum antibiotic, and will often be right to. If he applied hospital standards and sought tests to find exactly the right drug, the cost in time and NHS resources would probably be greater.

Constant research and information are needed to enable doctors, and those in charge of health policies, to make choices which best combine the individual and the general benefit. Patients need to be more fully informed of the ways in which they can foster resistant germs by taking antibiotics in the wrong way.

Thoughtless use of antibiotics in the past has squandered many of their benefits. Medical thrift and compassion will be needed in future to ensure the best use, in immensely varied contexts, of these medicines which are too precious to use wastefully, but also too precious to deny to those who need them.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Forces' defence to ex-officer

From the Minister of State for the Armed Forces

Sir, Lord Morpeth's letter (March 5) on the state of the Regular Army presents such a one-sided picture that it cannot be allowed to pass without comment. The key fact is that over the last eight years we will have devoted more than £2,000million additional expenditure in real terms on the Army compared with the level in 1978-79.

The majority of this additional money has gone on equipment. This is permitting a massive and much-needed re-equipment programme. Some of the major items ordered by the present Government are already coming into service — the Challenger main battle tank, the Saxon armoured personnel carrier, the Javelin and Tracked Rapier air defence missiles, the new SA 80 rifle and the Pirbright communications system are only some of the examples.

Other major items of equipment will be entering service over the next few years — the Warrior armoured personnel carrier, the Multiple-launch Rocket System, the DROPS logistic support vehicle, and Rapier 2000 and Starstreak missiles.

The Army's equipment is in fact being modernized in all the key

capability areas. Moreover, by the end of the decade we will have 12 armoured regiments in BAOR, compared with eight in 1980, and a third air defence regiment.

On the personnel side, it is the case that local overseas allowances in Germany have had to be reduced, mainly because the difference between the cost of living in Britain and in Germany has narrowed. But in the key area of pay Lord Morpeth is simply wrong when he says that the recommendations of the Armed Forces Pay Review Body have rarely been put into effect.

The fact is that the present Government, unlike its predecessor, has implemented in full eight successive reports on service pay from the Armed Forces Pay Review Body, with phasing for only a matter of months in just two of those eight years.

Of course there is always more we could spend on any of the three Services, but without question the Army today is in immeasurably better shape than it was eight years ago.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STANLEY,
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall, SW1.
March 5.

Nuclear testing

From Dr Norman Dombey

Sir, Mr Richard Worcester writes (February 28) that a stockpile of nuclear weapons needs continued nuclear testing to ensure that the warheads do not deteriorate over time. He refers in particular to problems associated with the period 1958-61 of the voluntary nuclear test ban, and especially with the W47 warhead which is no longer in use by the United States.

In the years after 1963 when the partial test ban treaty banning atmospheric nuclear tests was signed, it was expected that a comprehensive test ban treaty barring all nuclear tests would follow. Dr Glenn Seaborg, Chairman of the US Atomic Energy Commission from 1961 to 1971, has stated that during his period of office US nuclear weapons were designed on the assumption that there would be a comprehensive test ban. Therefore non-explosive tests were developed to determine whether nuclear components had deteriorated.

Others, more knowledgeable on these matters than either Mr Worcester or myself, have insisted that "continued nuclear testing is not necessary to ensure the reliability of warheads in our stockpile". So wrote Norris Bradbury, former Director of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, and Hans Bethe, former Director of the Theoretical Division at Los Alamos during the Manhattan Project, to the Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in May 1965. They continued:

The best way to confirm reliability is to disassemble sample weapons and to subject the components to non-explosive tests. Non-explosive tests are also available for determining whether the nuclear components have deteriorated during storage. If

ageing problems are found in some components, these components can be replaced with newly fabricated ones, using the original design specifications. In no case was the discovery of a reliability problem dependent on a nuclear test.

Unfortunately it is no longer the policy of the United States to assume that a comprehensive test ban is imminent. Current policy, according to a senior official from Livermore Laboratory, is to design "on the assumption that nuclear testing would continue".

Yours sincerely,
NORMAN DOMBEY,
School of Mathematics and
Physics Building,
The University of Sussex,
Brighton, Sussex.
March 2.

From Mr Michael Cullis

Sir, May I take a stage further the argument in Mr Richard Worcester's excellent letter. In the seven years in which I was Director of Arms Control and Disarmament Research at the Foreign Office, I sometimes made myself unpopular in *bi-mensuris* circles by contending that, whatever the other merits of pressure for a limitation on nuclear weapon testing, effective arms control was hardly going to be one of them.

For the plain fact is surely that either testing will always be necessary (as Mr Worcester claims), in which case a nuclear weapon power that intends to remain such is most unlikely to deny itself testing, or if (as some have argued) it is unnecessary, then the effect of a cessation of testing will be irrelevant to arms control, however desirable it may be for other reasons.

Yours etc,
MICHAEL CULLIS,
County End,
Bushey Heath,
Hertfordshire.

Leaving the SDP

From Mr William Shepherd

Sir, I read the article by Mr Horam (March 2) with some interest, since having sat in Parliament for 21 years as a Conservative, I, too, joined the SDP.

I find Mr Horam's reasons for leaving the SDP too shallow to persuade me to follow suit. No one except the loony left can possibly deny the benefits which Mrs Thatcher has conferred upon us, albeit in a manner that has exacerbated the divisions in our society.

What I feel Mr Horam fails to realise is that most of us wish to ensure that the improvements — such as privatisation, trade union reform, lower taxation etc — remain. But there is no chance of these changes prevailing if the Labour Party, as at present constituted, is returned to power; the

unions are its paymasters and the loony and hard left hold it to ransom in a depressingly large number of constituencies.

The urgent need, it seems to me, is to get a revision of the electoral system and an end to confrontational politics. We shall not do this without the intervention of the Alliance. The Alliance, either as a government or holding the balance of power, can demonstrate that another major political force supports a freer, more competitive society.

If we do not get such an electoral demonstration, Mr Ronald Todd, of the TGWU, will be preparing to turn the clock back as soon as another Labour government is elected.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM SHEPHERD,
77 George Street,
Portman Square, W1.
March 2.

Stinsford Church

From Dr C. J. P. Beatty

Sir, I am horrified to learn of a proposal to build a service station, complete with car and lorry parks, restaurant, shop and toilets, and possibly even overnight accommodation and/or a caravan park on a four-and-a-half acre site within 400 yards or so of Stinsford Church, near Dorchester.

Thomas Hardy loved this church throughout his long life and it is ironic to think that in 1987, when an appeal is being launched for structural repairs, it should suddenly be threatened from a totally unexpected quarter.

Hardy took a great interest in the Church's wellbeing and the incumbents were able to make use

of his unrivalled expertise as a former architect to keep it in good repair.

What a sacrilege! Stinsford Church is the most important Hardy shrine after the birthplace. All the Hardy family graves are there. Surely another site can be found; or do the local authorities actually wish to discourage the large numbers of Hardy pilgrims from all over the world from visiting Dorset?

Yours faithfully,
C. J. P. BEATTY,
University of Oslo,
Department of English,
PO Box 1003,
Blindern, 0315,
Oslo 3, Norway.
February 23.

R & D shortfall

From Professor Geoffrey Goldspink

Sir, After all that has been written recently in *The Times* about the need to increase research spending and development, Mr Welbourn (February 27) is still prepared to say that there is too much spending on research in this country.

I agree that Britain is particularly weak on the development aspects of discovery. We certainly need talented scientific people with personality to seek out and persuade the more academically inclined research workers that their ideas should be developed. However, to argue in this era of high-tech that there is too much research being carried out in the UK is tantamount to arguing that we should become dependent on

the research being carried out by other countries.

After recently spending four years in the United States, let me say that for British companies to buy innovative ideas in science and engineering from the States, Japan or Germany will be infinitely more difficult than it has been for American companies to capitalise on ideas that originated in Britain.

I found the letter from Mr Alan Smith (February 28) to be even more depressing. He apparently believes that the Government should invest in projects that can be predicted to pay off in the short term and mentions Concorde as an example of an engineering project while elephant. Does he not realise that the Concorde developed from the Concorde

Wiesenthal file and justice

From the Right Reverend Lord Cogan

Sir, The issues raised in your leading article, "The Wiesenthal file" (March 3), are complex. May I be allowed to make three points:

1. In discussion of such issues the words "to forgive" and "to forget" are so frequently used together as to imply that they are inseparable. But this is not so. In the particular question of anti-Semitic atrocities committed by the Nazis with a horror unparalleled in history it would be criminal to forget. Later generations must never be allowed to forget the depths to which a people can sink in murdering defenceless millions. To remember and to forgive are not necessarily antithetical.

2. The distinction between justice and vengeance needs to be borne in mind. Justice demands that society takes note of wrongs committed, and does so in such a way as to ensure, in so far as is possible, that such atrocities do not occur again. Vengeance appeals to the baser instincts within us all, and forgets that the *lex talionis*, "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth", was more a kindly law to ensure that two eyes or two teeth were not demanded, rather than a prescription for getting one's own back.

3. The distinction made in your article between Britain as "a Christian country" and the State of Israel, "which is built at least in part on the common memory of the Holocaust", is, to say the least, unfortunate and could be offensive to many Jews. Jews and Gentiles alike came under the Nazi lash and went their way to the gas chambers (though there was an anti-Semitic ferocity which made the persecution of the Jews outstandingly ghastly). Nor must we think of "mercy" only in terms of the Christian dispensation. The God of justice in the Jewish scriptures is also the God of compassion and tender mercy in those same scriptures.

The deepest question facing our Jewish friends, who have taught us so much about the nature of God, is how to reflect in the judgement that they mete out to their persecutors the character of the One who is at once the source of judgement and compassion. It is hardly for one who has not suffered as they have at the hands of the Nazis to hint at which way the scales should be tilted.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD COGGAN,
Kingshead House,
Sittingbourne,
Canterbury, Kent.
March 5.

Child's play

From the Director General of the National Playing Fields Association

Sir, The Under Secretary of State for the Environment, Richard Tracey, MR, proposes to merge the function and role of Play Board with that of the Sports Council on April 1.

Play Board is a registered charity established by the Government in 1983 to promote and develop children's play. At that time the Prime Minister recognised "the very important role played by voluntary organisations in developing children's play activities".

The field of play is united in its opposition to Mr Tracey's proposal. Play is distinct from sport and needs its own independent national focus.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN W. McFADYEN,
Director General, National Playing Fields Association,
25 Ovington Square, SW3.
February 27.

Evidence on camera

From the Duke of Somerset

Sir, There is dismay in many communities at the constant menace of speeding vehicles. Police resources are too stretched to make more than token efforts at detection.

A radical solution would be to install a camera, operated by a speed detector on the road, to automatically photograph the offending vehicle and registration plate. Fines would be sent out from a central computer-controlled office, perhaps attached to Swansea.

The cameras would operate all day and would be advertised by a new sign attached to the 30 mph entry post. If the camera broke down the effect would still remain. If necessary the camera could be financed by the community involved.

Yours faithfully,
SOMERSET,
Bradley Estate Office,
Maiden Bradley,
Warminster, Wiltshire.
February 26.

project gives us the capability of constructing Hotel (horizontal take-off and landing) and keeping Europe in the space business?

May I congratulate *The Times* on its impartiality in publishing minority views, albeit, in my opinion, very unenlightened views. Even more importantly may I say that I believe *The Times* has done the country a great service in publishing the facts on lack of R & D spending in Britain. Surely, there can be no doubt that the long-term prosperity of the country depends, to a large extent, on the quality of our science and technology research base.

Yours etc,
G. GOLDSPIK,
6 Marshalls Way,
Wheatthamstead, Hertfordshire.
March 1.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 6 1817

Poor relief was a parish responsibility, leading to abuses and a steep increase in expenditure. In 1832 a Buckinghamshire village reported an eight-fold increase in payments since 1785. The Poor Law Act was amended in 1834.

["RUINOUS POOR LAWS"]

... That the evils connected with the system of our poor laws are of deep root, and of extensive, nay, almost indefinite, operation, is a truth too familiar to need enforcing. They have impaired our triumphs; they have aggravated our sufferings; no matter what cause, or what variety of causes, have produced them. They are written profoundly in the morals of the poor, and in the comforts of the rich. By the abuse of idleness which the abuse of these laws has indulged, the sense of shame which it has banished, and the spirit of rapacity which it has substituted for that of industry, in the breasts of a once elevated and independent race of men, the domestic virtues of the British peasant have been corrupted at their source, until the contagion has touched the very vital principles with which Providence entwines the order of political society. All this may not be ascribable to the poor-laws merely; but they are a co-operating and an aggravating cause: they debauch the mind, and unhinge the morals; they undermine, as they do, the strenuous love of labour, they yet fail to satisfy the cravings they excite; and the result is, that the upper classes of the community, finding the constitution no longer fixed in the affections of the multitude, violate in their own defence its most venerable sacred guards; and lower it to a level with the degenerate age. To us it seems a self-evident fact, that the unquestionable distresses of the great body of the people are the nourishing principle of those excesses which have been committed or menaced; and the substantial origin of a great part of the dangers that have been, more or less, alarmingly described. Mitigate the poverty of which the working classes complain, and you deprive the danger of its most formidable sting, and the seditious preacher of his readiest instrument. ...

The grand principles, which should never be lost sight of in any discussion upon this momentous subject, are — that the poor-laws have become ruinous to the finances of the nation, and to the moral character of the people themselves. From these two principles result, as a necessary consequence, that relief should never be gratuitous, except to the infant, the diseased, or aged, who cannot help themselves, and who alone were provided for by the poor-laws as first enacted; but that where employment was wanting, employment should be found for the industrious who called for it; and that payment in proportion to the work done, should be afforded from the funds now squandered upon idleness; so as by the same means, to multiply the productions of the national industry, and to preserve the fundamental virtue of a civilized community, by making each man depend upon his own labour.

The poor rates paid last year in England amounted to the sum of £8,000,000 sterling. The expense of hospitals, workhouses, &c. with public and private charitable contributions, has been generally estimated at six millions more. What a sum is here! — greater than the whole expenses of the Government during the peace that followed the American war — far greater than the interest of the national debt before the war of 1793 — more than equal to the present sinking fund of the empire — and much beyond the total revenue of any other country (France alone excepted) in the world! Then how is this revenue bestowed? Why, 19 parts out of 20 on those who do nothing in return. It is all outgoing; there is no value rendered. ...

Naming names

From Professor P. B. Fellgett, FRS

Sir, Philip Howard (February 23) flatters the subject; profess by supposing that it will be characteristic of the 21st century. Indeed I believe this will be so, but not in the sense of trivia such as "personal identity codes".

The father of modern cybernetics was Norbert Wiener who defined it in 1948 in terms of four key words — control, communication, information and feedback. These do not refer to different facets of concepts but to different facets of the same thing. Control requires communication and feedback; what is communicated is information; and the useful application of information constitutes control.

In a suitable sense, cybernetics may be called the science of interaction. I do indeed believe that society in the 21st century will be highly interactive, and that cybernetics will have a part to play in showing how these interactions can be used for the good of society. Yours faithfully,

PETER FELLGETT,
University of Reading,
Department of Cybernetics,
3 Earley Gate, Whiteknights,
Reading, Berkshire.

From Mr Leslie Dunkling

Sir, Even if Philip Howard's worst fears are realized, and we are all addressing one another by our "personal identity codes" in the next century, it will still be possible to be either polite or familiar.

Noel Coward showed the way. When Lawrence of Arabia had become an airman, Coward wrote him a letter which began: "Dear Sir 338171, or may I call you 338 ...?" Yours faithfully,
LESLIE DUNKLING,
32 Spear Road,
Thames Ditton, Surrey.

The Ford Sierras for 1987.



The new Sierra LX.

1.8 litres. 5 speed.
110 mph* Sunroof.
Six speaker, self search
radio/cassette. Tinted
glass. Rev counter.
Taut suspension.
Car illustrated fitted
with optional anti-lock
brakes and heated
backlight antenna.

The new Sierra Sapphire 2.0i Ghia.

4 speed auto.
114 mph* Electric
windows all round.
Power heated mirrors.
Motorised central



locking. Electronic
stereo. Car illustrated
fitted with optional
anti-lock brakes,
heated windscreen
and metallic paint.

*Ford computed figures.

The 2.8i Sierra Ghia 4x4 Estate.

124 mph* Self-levelling
rear suspension.
Loads of performance
with loads of space
(51.8 cu. ft). Optional
black paint. Other
Estates are available
with 1.6, 1.8, 2.0 and
2.0 EFI petrol engines
or 2.3 diesel.

A point to point favourite.

*Ford computed figures.
†Measured by the VDA method.



The winner moves on.

Britain's best selling
medium sized car is no
longer limited to Hatch-
back and Estate.

Now there's the brand
new Sierra Sapphire
saloon. But that's not all.

All Sierras have a new
design front.

Slimmer door pillars and
deeper windows create
a roomier feeling.

While redesigned seat
backs and new head
restraints give everyone
much better visibility.

Overall effect?

An even better Sierra
in every way.

The new Sierra Sapphire
shown here is obviously
the biggest news. But
there's even more besides.

All Sierra's have height
adjustable front seat belt
mounts for greater comfort.

Self search stereo radio,

2.0 with electronic

fuel injection. There's also
the rugged diesel. And the
powerful 2.8 on 4x4's.

A five speed gearbox
is standard in all but
the least expensive models.

With so much standard,
what options could we
offer you?

Here's three we think are
especially interesting.

First, there's anti-lock
brakes, the electronic
system made famous by
the Granada.

Big advantage? They help
you to maintain control
under emergency braking
by making the most of
the available grip. So if you
ever have to really stand
on the brakes, they could
help you steer safely out of
trouble. They're now
available on every model in
the Sierra range.

Second, an electrically
heated windscreen
(developed from aircraft

cassette with six speakers

— yes, even on the L.

From the LX up, tilting/
sliding sunroofs.

And high security locks
on all models — just as well
with all those features.

Engines? 1.6, 1.8, 2.0 or

technology). It achieves
rapid de-icing on frosty
mornings and can also help
in freezing fog. Clearly a
good idea. It's available on
all fuel injected models
and the 2.0 GL.

Third, especially for estate
cars, self-levelling rear
suspension. If you use your
estate to carry heavy loads,
it'll keep you on an even keel.

What more can we add?
Just an invitation for a
test drive.

The new Sierras are on
show at your Ford dealers.



Sierra. Now we are three.

Court of Appeal

All terms relevant in equal pay claim

Hayward v Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd
Before Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Nicholls and Sir Roderick Gifford
[Judgment March 5]

On an equal pay claim by a woman doing work of equal value to male comparators, the industrial tribunal, in considering whether any term of the woman's contract was less favourable to her than a term of a similar kind in the men's contracts, had to compare the terms and conditions of her contract as a whole and not just their basic wage and overtime rates.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the applicant, Miss Julie Hayward, from a decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal. (The Times June 4, 1986; [1986] ICR 862.) The applicant, employed as a cook by Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd, had claimed equal pay with male shipyard workers under section 1(2)(c) of the Equal Pay Act 1970.

Section 1(2)(c) provides: "An equality clause is a provision which relates to terms (whether concerned with pay or not) of a contract under which a woman is employed... and has the effect that... where a woman is employed on work which... is, in terms of the demands made on her (for instance under such headings as effort skill and decision), if equal value to that of a man in the same employment... (i) if (apart from the equality clause) any term of the woman's contract is or becomes less favourable to the woman than a term of a similar kind in the contract under which that man is employed, that term of the woman's contract shall be treated as so modified as not to be less favourable...".

Mr David Pannick for the applicant; Mr Charles James for the employer.

LORD JUSTICE NICHOLLS, giving the reserved

Tribunal must explain its decision

Regina v Dairy Produce Quota Tribunal for England and Wales, Ex parte Davies

When setting a milk quota, limiting a farmer's permitted production under the Dairy Produce Quota Regulations (SI 1984 No 1047), the Dairy Produce Quota Tribunal for England and Wales had to give reasons for its decision and explain the figures relied on.

Mr Justice Schiemann so held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 26 granting an order of certiorari to the applicant, Mr Michael Davies, quashing the second milk quota for his herd, set by the Dairy Produce Quota Tribunal for England and Wales.

judgment of the court, said that the appeal raised a point of construction of the equal pay legislation.

The industrial tribunal, having accepted an expert's report that the applicant's work was of equal value to the work of certain tradesmen employed at the shipyard, namely, a painter, joiner and thermal insulation engineer, directed that if the applicant's claim, in respect of her employer's contravention of any terms modified by virtue of the equality clause, was to operate in relation to any variation between her contract of employment and the contracts of her male comparators, could not be settled between the parties, the applicant might restore the matter for further consideration by the industrial tribunal.

The parties were unable to agree on the implementation of that decision. The point of disagreement was whether, in considering if any term of the applicant's contract was less favourable to her than a term of a similar kind in the men's contracts, it was appropriate (a) to compare only their respective terms as to basic wage rates and overtime rates, or (b) to have regard to the terms and conditions of the contracts of employment as a whole of the applicant and the tradesmen.

The applicant contended for (a) and the employer contended for (b). The industrial tribunal, by a majority, found in favour of the employer on July 25, 1985 and refused to make an unequal pay declaration that the applicant's basic pay and overtime rates should be the same as that of her male comparators.

In upholding that decision the appeal tribunal concluded that section 1(2) was capable of bearing two rival meanings, and that, accordingly, article 119 of the EEC Treaty had to be applied. Article 119 provided that "each member state shall... ensure and subsequently

maintain the application of the principle that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work."

"For the purposes of this article, 'pay' means the ordinary basic or minimum wage or salary and any other consideration, whether in cash or in kind, which the worker receives, directly or indirectly, in respect of his employment from his employer."

Mr Pannick's primary and principle argument was that section 1(2) was unambiguous in focusing on the specific term of which complaint was made, namely, those relating to the applicant's basic rate of pay and her overtime rate.

She was entitled to have those rates of pay increased to match those of the men comparators, regardless of the content of any other terms of her contract or the men's contracts.

Their Lordships were unable to accept that. Under section 1(2)(c) a comparison had to be made between "any term" of the woman's contract and a term of a similar kind in the men's contract. The comparison had to be made to decide whether the relevant term in the woman's contract was less favourable than the corresponding term in the man's contract.

The statutory favourability comparison might be capable of being carried out without any necessary adjustments only in the simplest of cases.

If a woman were paid a basic weekly sum but with productivity bonuses added, and a man were paid a fixed wage with no bonuses, in the court's view it was plain that the comparison exercise called for under section 1(2)(c) would require the bonuses to be brought into account.

The woman could not have her basic wage brought up to the level of the man's wage, and ignore the bonuses she was receiving.

No public law in claim

Regina v Secretary of State for Home Affairs and Others, Ex parte Dew

Where an application for judicial review under Order 53 of the Rules of the Supreme Court had been dismissed on the grounds that it disclosed no reasonable claim in public law and was an abuse of procedure, then there could be no order under Order 53, rule 9(5) that the proceedings continue as if they had been begun by writ.

Mr Justice McNeill so held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 16 in striking out proceedings brought by a prisoner, Robert Dew, against the Secretary of State for Home Affairs and the Governor and medical officer of Wandsworth Prison, alleging failure to provide prompt and adequate medical treatment.

HIS LORDSHIP concluded that in the light of authority (see *R v Deputy Governor of Camphill Prison, Ex parte King* [1985] QB 735) the applicant's case involved no arguable claim in public law. His claimant at best was a claimant at common law for damages for negligence.

Strictly speaking, if the application was struck out, there was nothing left; there was no "hook" upon which a rule 9(5) order could be made.

In any event, his Lordship agreed with Lord Justice Purchas in *R v East Berkshire Health Authority, Ex parte Walsh* [1985] QB 152 that a rule 9(5) order could only be made where a breach of some public law obligation was proved; and that was not the case here.

The object of the Equal Pay Act was to prevent discrimination. The purpose of an equality clause was to achieve equality. But to leave productivity bonuses out of account would not be to achieve equality. It would have the effect of raising the woman's pay to a level above that of a man.

That could not have been the intention of Parliament, nor did the court consider that the language used in the section compelled such a construction.

"The Act required the 'term' of the woman's contract to be compared with a 'term' of a similar kind."

Terms in contracts of employment were of many kinds concerning the nature of the work, working conditions, hours of work, pay and so forth. Where the complaint related to pay, the provisions which had to be compared were the terms concerning pay.

The term in the woman's contract concerning pay was not less favourable than the man's contract. The comparison had to be made to decide whether the relevant term in the woman's contract was less favourable than the corresponding term in the man's contract.

What of the woman's contract? It was not a fixed or variable cash bonus on top of her basic pay, but a benefit in kind, such as the use of a car, or free meals, or free transport, or free medical insurance.

"70 Act, but the court was unable to discern any reason why, if a cash bonus had to be brought into the comparison exercise, bonuses in kind should not."

In an era when many employees received part of their remuneration in the form of benefits, frequently of considerable value, to distinguish between payments in cash and payments in kind would be to introduce an artificial and unrealistic distinction.

Their Lordships' conclusion on the construction of "term" in section 1(1) of the EEC Treaty. Indeed, their Lordships were fortified in that conclusion by the terms of the article.

Article 119 contained a wide definition of "pay" for the purposes of the principle that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work. The article did not expressly state that, in applying the principle, pay as a whole as defined should be looked at, rather than the individual ingredients one by one, but their Lordships had no doubt that that was what was meant. That was the only sensible interpretation of the article.

For those reasons the appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Brian Thompson & Partners, Manchester; Davis, Campbell & Co, Liverpool.

Regina v Secretary of State for Social Services, Ex parte Camden London Borough Council
Same v Same, Ex parte Nelson
Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Parker and Lord Justice Mustill
[Judgment March 5]

Regulations limiting awards payable by way of supplementary benefit for people in board and lodgings by reference to areas and limiting the time for which, in any case, such benefits could be payable were not invalid, notwithstanding that a directory booklet referred to in the regulations, which specified the financial and time limits applicable to a large number of areas, had not itself been laid before Parliament.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing appeals by the applicants, Camden London Borough Council and Miss Evelyn Nelson, from a decision of the Secretary of State for Social Services (Miss Beverley Lang) on a declaration of invalidity under section 3(1) of the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements and Regulations) Act 1985 (No 1435), were valid.

Mr Richard Drabble and Miss Beverley Lang for the applicants; Mr Michael Bellof, QC, Mr John Laws and Miss Elizabeth Coleman for the secretary of state.

The regulations were wholly invalid. They first submitted that the directory itself formed part of the regulations and that section 3(3) prohibited the secretary of state from making them because at the time he made them the directory had neither been laid before nor approved by either House.

The view of the provisions of section 3(3) of the 1976 Act, read in conjunction with section 1(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946, they contended, was prepared for the purposes of the appeals to accept that the secretary of state was obliged to lay before Parliament a draft of the regulations which he proposed to exercise his power to make regulations.

That was what he did. The document by which he exercised the power was the 14 pages headed "Statutory Instruments 1985 No 1435" to which he appended his signature, and before exercising the power he duly placed before Parliament a draft of that document and the draft was duly approved by each House.

No statutory or other authority obliged the court to hold that the directory either formed part of the statutory instrument or was a document by which the secretary of state exercised the power referred to in the regulations. The draft of the regulations made it clear to Parliament that the details of the relevant maximum awards for which approval was sought were not to be found in the regulations themselves.

There was little authority. Counsel's research had brought to light the case of *R v Shingles* (July 12, 1982, unreported, CA).

In that case Lord Justice Dunn said that the judge had given insufficient weight to or credit for the fact that the defendant had during the four years after he had absconded lived a law-abiding life.

It was the duty of the court to sentence the defendant for this offence. It was the same offence as that charged in 1976, and had not changed in any way by the passage of time. The man however had changed.

Taking into account the defendant's lesser role in the robbery, and the fact that he could probably have pleaded guilty, the court's view was that the correct sentence would have been four years. That should be reduced to two years.

To that sentence should be added a sentence of 12 months in respect of the offence of failing to surrender to bail, which in principle should always be regarded as to be imposed consecutively.

Solicitors: Greene D'sa, Leicester.

Limits on benefit awards are valid

LORD JUSTICE SLADE, giving the judgment of the court, said that section 1(1) of the Supplementary Benefit Act 1976, as amended by the Health and Social Security Adjudication Act 1983, provided that a person over 16 whose resources are insufficient to meet his requirements, should be entitled to supplementary benefit.

The Act provided for the right to an amount of benefit to be determined in accordance with regulations.

Section 3(1) specified that the power to make regulations was exercisable by statutory instrument. Section 3(3)(c) provided that such regulations should not be made unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before Parliament and approved by resolution of each House.

In November 1985 the secretary of state made the Supplementary Benefit (Requirements and Regulations) (No 2) Regulations 1985. The regulations made reference to and clearly identified, an already existing publication, "The Directory of Social Services" (published by the Stationery Office).

The evidence showed that the regulations were laid before and approved by both Houses of Parliament, but that the regulations were made without the directory itself ever having been laid before Parliament.

In those circumstances the applicants contended that the regulations were wholly invalid.

They first submitted that the directory itself formed part of the regulations and that section 3(3) prohibited the secretary of state from making them because at the time he made them the directory had neither been laid before nor approved by either House.

The view of the provisions of section 3(3) of the 1976 Act, read in conjunction with section 1(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946, they contended, was prepared for the purposes of the appeals to accept that the secretary of state was obliged to lay before Parliament a draft of the regulations which he proposed to exercise his power to make regulations.

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Solicitors: Greene D'sa, Leicester.

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Solicitors: Greene D'sa, Leicester.

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Solicitors: Greene D'sa, Leicester.

but in the directory which was clearly identified. If Parliament had objected to the manner chosen to identify the maximum awards it could have withheld approval from the draft.

The applicants' alternative submission was that if the directory did not form part of the regulations it was not possible for an adjudication officer, who was set the task of determining a boarder's benefit, to do so in accordance with the regulations, so that the requirement in paragraph 3(1) of Schedule 1 to the 1976 Act that the weekly amount of a boarder's benefit should be "prescribed" meaning "specified in or determined in accordance with regulations" was not satisfied.

In the court's judgment, providing no unauthorized delegation of his powers was involved, the secretary of state could perform the duty imposed by the combined effect of paragraph 3(1) and section 34 either by specifying the relevant amount in the regulations or by clearly identifying a formula or document by reference to which the relevant amount could be ascertained.

The weekly amount of a boarder's benefit was well capable of being "determined in accordance with regulations" since it fell to be determined by reference to the contents of a document clearly and properly identified in the regulations.

Solicitors: Mr F. Nickson, St Pancras; Ms Penny B. Wood; Solicitor: DHSS.

No power to make future declarations

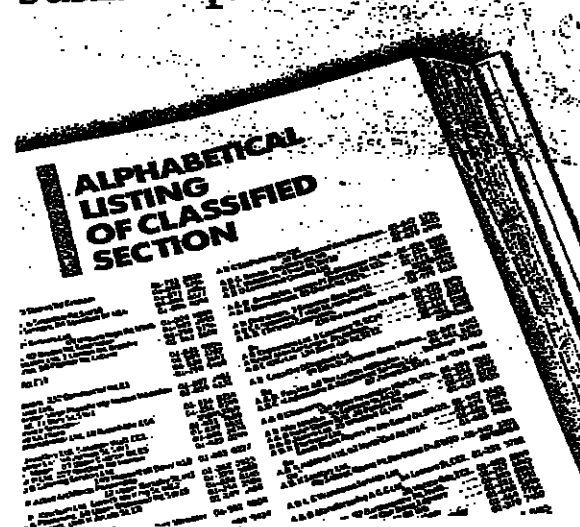
Naylor and Others v Wrotham Park Settled Estates

The court had no jurisdiction, without the consent of the parties, when they were not currently in dispute to make a declaratory judgment about an issue which might arise in the future concerning future events which could not be foreseen with any confidence.

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies so held in the Chancery Division on February 24 when granting the defendant an order to strike out an originating summons brought by the plaintiffs seeking declarations in respect of a lease dated September 6, 1968 between the defendant lessor and the plaintiff tenants.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the general observations of Lord Diplock in *Gouriet v Union of Post Office Workers* (1978) AC 435 did not enable the court to disregard the guidance afforded by *In re Clay* ([1919] 1 Ch 66) which was recently applied by the Court of Appeal in *Midland Bank plc v Laker Airways Ltd* ([1986] QB 689).

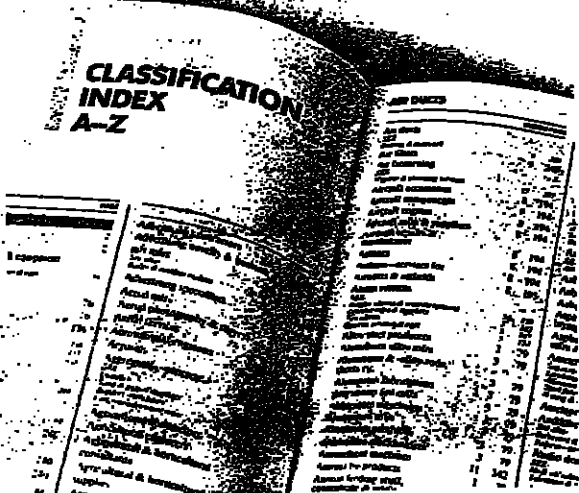
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Turn to the back of the book and you'll find the index.

Turn to the front of the book and you'll also find the index. (Well, we like to

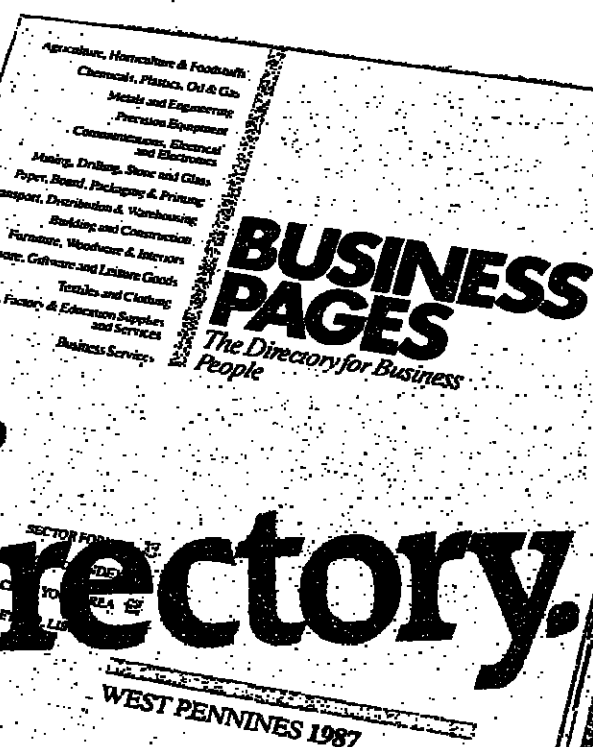


keep everyone happy.) And, in addition to our comprehensive classified listings, you'll discover an alphabetical listing of com-

pany names, addresses, and telephone numbers.

A listing, we might add, that's a little more comprehensive than most.

So look out for Business Pages. (We send a free local area copy to your company every year.) You'll find our format far more informative.



Business Pages.

A directory, not an indirectory.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

BIRTHS

And in this year shall all the nations of the earth be blessed: because thus said the Lord God of Israel.

BIRTHS

GANTLEY - On March 4th, at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, a daughter, Julia Rachel, to Alan and Stephen, a daughter Mary.

DRINKWATER - On March 3rd 1987, at Queen Charlotte's to Frances and David, a son, James Alexander.

ELLIOTT - On February 27th, to Keith and Jane, a son, James Alexander.

GOLDSTEIN - On February 26th, to Margaret Rose and Simon Goldstein, a son, Henry Charles.

MANGHATTA - On February 27th, at Guy's Hospital, to Jill (nee Ansell) and Robert, a daughter, Caroline Emma.

HARPER - On February 26th 1987, at W2, to John and Rebecca, a daughter (Charlotte Rebecca).

HERBERT - On March 4th, at St. Mary's Hospital, to Angela (nee Adams) and Anthony, a son, Oliver.

HELDYARD - On March 3rd 1987, to Anne and Nicholas, a son.

KINISHT - On March 4th, to Angela (nee Morris) and Anthony, a daughter, Jennifer.

LEACH - On March 4th 1987, to Karen and James, a son, Patrick Nicholas.

MACKAY - On March 1st, at Queen Charlotte's, to Diana and Robert, a daughter.

MCKEAN - On March 1st 1987, at Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, to Margaret and Elizabeth, a daughter, Louise Mary.

MITCHELL - On February 28th, at Queen Charlotte's, to Alison (nee Hicks) and Charles, a daughter, Louise Mary.

PALMER - On February 28th, to Laura and John, a son.

PARKER - On March 1st, in Southampton to Sheila (nee Smith) and Alan, a son, Andrew David.

PITSLAND - On February 18th, to Karen and Andrew, a son, Jeremy.

REISMAN - On March 4th, at Queen Charlotte's, to Angela (nee Adams) and Alan, a daughter, Benedicta Josephine.

ROBERTSON - On March 1st, at Torbay Hospital, to Julie (nee Matthews) and Tim, a son, Andrew William Henry.

SLOWE - On March 5th, at St. Thomas' Hospital, to Amanda (nee Fine) and Richard, a son, Daniel Thomas.

STURGES - On February 26th, to Alison (nee Morris) and Michael, a daughter, Julia Joy.

SWANSON - On March 2nd, to Louise and Andy, a son, Henry John.

WATSON - On March 5th 1987, at Queen Charlotte's, to Margaret and John, a son, a brother for Lucy.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

RICHARDS-WARRICK-CODRINGTON - On 6th March 1987 at the Church of the Holy Cross, Richmond, Surrey, the wedding of Miss Mary Ann Richards to Mr. John Warrick-Codrington.

DEATHS

BLACK - On March 4th, suddenly but peacefully at his home at South Westons, Wiltshire, John Linton, aged 74. Beloved husband of Jean and father of three children: George, private secretary. Donations if desired to The Marie Curie Foundation, 200 Park Street, London W1P 6PU.

BOTTLE - On March 4th, peacefully after a long illness, John William, aged 77. Beloved husband of Janet. Funeral at Chichester Cathedral, Wednesday March 11th, at 12.00 noon. No flowers by request, but donations if desired to St. Wilfrid's Hospice, Dunnington, Chichester, West Sussex.

DOVER - On March 1st in London, Victor, dearly loved husband of Neely, father of Samuel, Ronald and Michael. Funeral has taken place at the Holy Lane Cemetery, Romsey, W. He will be deeply missed.

GARRETT - On March 4th 1987, peacefully after a short illness, Geraldine Mary (nee Garvey), aged 78. Beloved mother of John, John and Anthony and much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral at St. Peter's Church, Chichester, on Wednesday March 11th, at 12.00 noon. No flowers by request, but donations if desired to St. Wilfrid's Hospice, Dunnington, Chichester, West Sussex.

HARVEY - On March 4th, peacefully after a long illness, Mrs. Mary (nee Harvey), aged 78. Beloved wife of the late Mr. John Harvey. Funeral at St. Peter's Church, Chichester, on Wednesday March 11th, at 12.00 noon. No flowers by request, but donations if desired to St. Wilfrid's Hospice, Dunnington, Chichester, West Sussex.

WATSON - On March 1st in London, Victor, dearly loved husband of Neely, father of Samuel, Ronald and Michael. Funeral has taken place at the Holy Lane Cemetery, Romsey, W. He will be deeply missed.

ISRAELIANS

On March 3rd, at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, a daughter, Julia Rachel, to Alan and Stephen, a daughter Mary.

DRINKWATER - On March 3rd 1987, at Queen Charlotte's to Frances and David, a son, James Alexander.

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WATSON - On March 5th 1987, at Queen Charlotte's, to Margaret and John, a son, a brother for Lucy.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

GARVEY - A Service in Thanksgiving for the life of Terence Garvey, will be held at St. Peter's Church, Chichester, on Wednesday March 11th, at 12.00 noon. The Rev. Canon J. H. Garvey will officiate.

MART - A Service in Thanksgiving for the life of Mrs. Mary (nee Mart), will be held at St. Peter's Church, Chichester, on Wednesday March 11th, at 12.00 noon. The Rev. Canon J. H. Garvey will officiate.

PRICE - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Mrs. Mary (nee Price), will be held at St. Peter's Church, Chichester, on Wednesday March 11th, at 12.00 noon. The Rev. Canon J. H. Garvey will officiate.

DAVE - A Service in Thanksgiving for the life of Mr. David (nee Dave), will be held at St. Peter's Church, Chichester, on Wednesday March 11th, at 12.00 noon. The Rev. Canon J. H. Garvey will officiate.

DAVE - A Service in Thanksgiving for the life of Mr. David (nee Dave), will be held at St. Peter's Church, Chichester, on Wednesday March 11th, at 12.00 noon. The Rev. Canon J. H. Garvey will officiate.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE TIMES NEW HOMES FEATURE MARCH 11th!

The Times is running another New Homes Property Feature. If you have quality new developments built or planned in or out of London this is a tailor made market place to advertise.

PLEASE CALL JULIE HOLLIS ON 01 481 1986

to discuss your space booking NOW.

WORLD The gardeners who received a letter from the Times on March 4th, 1987, at 10.30am, to inform them that their garden had been selected for the feature.

PLEASE HELP The National Trust is seeking help for the relief of pain in conditions of the garden. The National Trust is seeking help for the relief of pain in conditions of the garden.

BIRTHDAYS

BIZET WITH BUDGET

CHOPIN AROUND FOR A PIANO?

JAPANESE ANITA Presents for sale, major items. This rare breed must be seen. Tel: 01 481 1986.

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WATERLOO For sale, major items. This rare breed must be seen. Tel: 01 481 1986.

ALL MARRIAGES For sale, major items. This rare breed must be seen. Tel: 01 481 1986.

FOR SALE

OLD YORK FLAUNTS For sale, major items. This rare breed must be seen. Tel: 01 481 1986.

PRINCE OF WALES For sale, major items. This rare breed must be seen. Tel: 01 481 1986.

SEAFORTH For sale, major items. This rare breed must be seen. Tel: 01 481 1986.

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London's Leading Music Store offer the finest selection of upright and grand pianos by leading manufacturers from the UK, Japan, and West Germany. Low interest credit terms available. We also stock the latest Yamaha portable and multi-keyboard, the fabulous range of Clavinova, and a vast selection of guitars, woodwind and brass instruments. Our stock of musical equipment covers over 40,000 classical and popular titles - mail order a pleasure. Tel: 01 481 1986.

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RENTALS

WESTMORELAND TERRACE SW1

4000 sq. ft. new, charming house and spacious family house available immediately for long company let. 3 beds, 2 baths, 2 recep. rms. lit with all machines, small patio and garden. Tel: 01 481 1986.

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WINTER SPORTS

BLADON LINES

BLADON LINES

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

THEATRE

LONDON

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only

CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL

Colin Blakey in attractive, Ayckmou transfer from the NT: how to break hearts and wreck havoc by being tremendously good-natured.

DECADENCE Revival of Steven Berkoff's torrid study of the upper classes, with Linda Marlowe. Limited season, proving very popular.

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (01-438 3028). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 8.30-10.10pm, matinee Sat 5.30-7.45pm, £4.50-10.50, until April 26.

FASCINATING AIDA: The witty, sparkling and sparkling about. Piccadilly Theatre, Denham Street, London W1 (01-438 3028). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8.10-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.40pm, 8.30-11.40pm, £7.50, extended until March 21.

KATHE AND THE HIPPOCRISUS: The uses of fantasy in a travel-writer's diary. Award-winner from Edinburgh by the Peruvian Mario Vargas Llosa. Almeida Theatre, 100 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (01-369 4404). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £5, until March 28.

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR: Shakespeare updated to the 1950s with spiv and ted. Short on magic but full of a visual feast. Great fun and very popular. Belfrage Theatre, 100 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (01-369 4404). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £5, until March 28.

SCOUTS' HONOUR: Left-wing comedy about the Scout movement and its results. Often hilarious. Lyric Theatre, King Street, London WC2 (01-438 3028). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £5, until March 28.

SIEGFRIED SASSOON: Peter Bawn uses the poet's own words to tell his story in a limited viewpoint but still effective. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-438 3028). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £5, until March 28.

THIS STORY OF YOURS: Revival of John Hopkins's powerful exposure of a bad cop's breakdown; starring David Suchet. Completed Theatre, 100 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (01-369 4404). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £5, until March 28.

LONG RUNNERS: The Business of Murder. Mayfair Theatre (01-438 3028). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £5, until March 28.

THE GOLDEN CHILD: The story of a boy who is found in a forest and raised by a family of gypsies. The story is told in a limited viewpoint but still effective. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-438 3028). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £5, until March 28.

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OUT OF TOWN

BATH: ★ A Piece of My Mind: George Cole and Anna Carter in Peter Nichols's new play covering 20 years in a writer's life. Theatre Royal, Savoy (0225 65055). Mon-Wed 7.30-9.55pm, Wed 2.30-4.55pm, Sat 4.30-6.55pm, £15-212, until March 7.

BURY ST EDMUNDS: ★ Peer Gynt: Michael Maloney plays Ibsen's feckless hero in this Cambridge Theatre Company's touring production. Theatre Royal, Westgate Street (0224 65055). Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £15-212, until March 7.

DERBY: ★ Our Day Out: Willy Russell's calamity-packed school outing show. Playhouse Theatre, Theatre Walk, Eagle Centre (0232 36277). Mon-Thurs 7.30-9.30pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.40pm, 8.30-11.40pm, £7.50, extended until March 21.

LEEDS: ★ Canine: First performance outside the West End of Pam Gems's stirring tear-jerker. With Diane Kates. Playhouse Theatre, Calverley Street (01924 44111). Mon and Tues 8.10-10.40pm, Wed-Sat 7.30-10.10pm, matinee Sat 5.40pm, £4-25.50, until March 7.

MANCHESTER: ★ March of the Windsors: Shakespeare updated to the 1950s with spiv and ted. Short on magic but full of a visual feast. Great fun and very popular. Belfrage Theatre, 100 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (01-369 4404). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 8.10-10.10pm, £5, until March 28.

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CANNON FULHAM ROAD (01-370 2835, cc 01-373 6930). Progs 2.00, 8.00, 9.00.

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (01-437 1234, cc 01-240 7200). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 11.15.

THE COLOR OF MONEY (15): Paul Newman returns to the pool table in a belated sequel to *The Hustler*. Martin Scorsese works hard whipping up excitement as Fast Eddie Nelson tries to get back into the game, spurred by jealousy of a young protégé played by Tom Cruise (119 min).

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (01-330 5252, cc 01-330 7615). Progs 12.25, 3.10, 6.00, 8.55, 11.55.

CROCODILE DUNDEE (15): Australia's smash hit, with TV comic Paul Hogan as a crocodile hunter bemoaned by New York's urban jungle. Broad and loud, but friendly (98 min).

CANNON CHURCH (01-352 5066). Progs 2.20, 6.05, 8.55.

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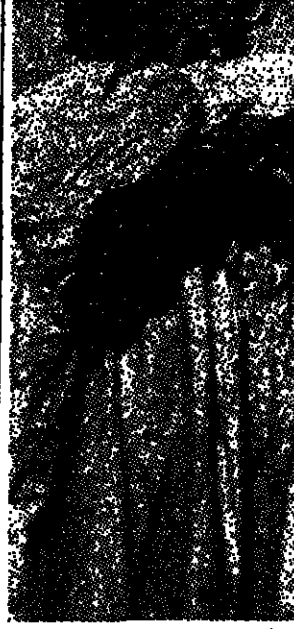
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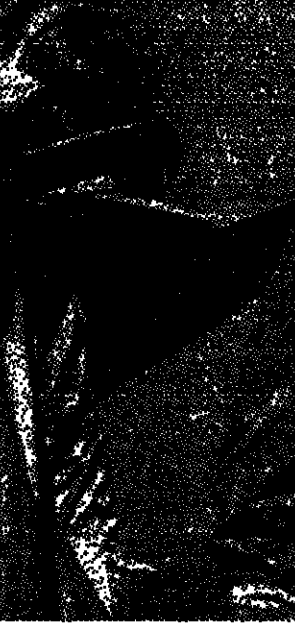
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THE CULT: Having abandoned all attempts at pretensions, King and Co have emerged as a full-blown heavy rock act. Bathoedden, Glasgow (041 552 4601). 8.30pm, £5.50-25.

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THE ARTS

Keeping it under wraps

I must confess that I have had my doubts about "the Bulgarian Wrapper" (he is not a monster who mummifies his victims to death, nor a new East European protection against Aids, but a grandiose eccentric New York-based artist called Christo). I have always suspected that his jolly wheezes, such as wrapping up bridges and miles of coastline, gave art a bad name, even if they did give this artist such a good one.

However, after seeing last night's *Rising Fence* (Channel 4), I am a convert. I would let him wrap my house. I

TELEVISION

would even let him wrap my mother. Admittedly the film, made in 1977 by the pioneering American documentarist David and Albert Maysles, did not exactly show him wrapping anything. All he was doing was erecting an 18 ft white nylon fence across 24 miles of Californian grazing land. But the manic perseverance he showed in setting up the project, the delight shown by the hard-bitten, sceptical farmers when the fence was built, and, most surprising of all, the undeniable beauty of the absurd thing when it was finished, quite won me over. There it stretched, glinting in the sun, snaking round the contours of the land, a great wall of America, all drip-drip-man-made fibre, a new frontier if there ever was one.

Of course, there were a few problems in setting the thing up, not least in convincing local opinion and bureaucracy. Mrs Christie was a great help, doing much of the talking. It seems that she is more of a Bulgarian rapper. At least, I take it that it was Bulgarian as well as English that she was speaking - not that I take easily to Bulgarian. "Why did you cry?" Christo asked in subtitles. "Because I cried," she replied, neatly wrapping up the conversation.

On BBC2 40 Minutes gave us an intriguing look at the work of Hull firemen, which let smoke get in the camera's eye as well as theirs and showed that the shocked old as well as the shockers of the new benefit from wrapping up.

Andrew Hislop

Obsessive thrills on the green baize

CINEMA

The Color of Money (15)
Leicester Square Theatre

Duet for One (15)
Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue

Whoops Apocalypse (15)
Cannon Panton Street

A quarter of a century ago, in Robert Rossen's steely melodrama *The Hustler* (which can be seen in a revival at the ICA), Paul Newman created the figure of Fast Eddie Felson, a brash, obsessive young pool player and shark. Under the influence of his megalomaniac mentor and manager (George C. Scott) Eddie sacrificed his soul and the one person who loved him for the sake of his ambition to win. At the end of *The Hustler* the Scott character warns Eddie that he will kill him if he ever shoots pool again.

In *The Color of Money* Martin Scorsese takes up the story 25 years later. Eddie, still played by Paul Newman, has evidently been the warning and stayed away from the tables, instead he is now hustling low-class liquor with high-class labels. In a midwest pool hall he spots a show-off young player called Vincent (Tom Cruise) and offers to finance and manage his cross-country tour to take part in a contest in Atlantic City. His own relationships of a quarter of a century earlier are echoed as he teaches the younger man the tricks of the trade, the games of bluff and the qualities of "character" required in a good con-man.

Both films were inspired by Walter Tevis's similarly titled novels, which were themselves separated by an equivalent time-interval. While *The Hustler* is a fairly faithful adaptation, however, Richard Price's script for *The Color of Money* takes comparatively little but the main character from the book; the figure of Vincent is entirely invented for the film.

The Guildhall School of Music and Drama has done everyone a favour. Not only is Martin's *Julietta*, with its panoply of minor characters and its testing orchestral score, the perfect piece for young aspiring professionals: this dream-play deserves more than the one showing it has so far had in England (New Opera Company, 1978), and Anthony Beech's production for the Guildhall should convince anyone of the fact.

An episodic fable, based on the French surrealist Georges Neveux's play *The Key of Dreams*, it has nothing like the broad sweep and dramatic coherence of Martin's *The Greek Passion*. But it has the same profound humanity to charge its musical energy. A

Rossen enjoyed the melodrama of character. Scorsese's film concentrates austere on the central relationship between the two obsessive men, and the abstract drama of the green tables as the balls volley about them with military discipline and the crack of cue on ivory. These games are marvellously staged: even for those who cannot follow this mysterious sport they have a fascinating choreography, with a moment of real spectacle as the camera opens up on the massed tables of the Atlantic City tournament.

The other characters are incidental: even Eddie's and Vincent's girls play distinctly secondary roles, though the latter (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio) has a more positive character than the girl the young Eddie loved and lost

25 years ago. Played by Piper Laurie, she was a tragic sacrificial victim, while Vincent's girl is the dominant partner, precipitating his eventual decision to cut adrift from Eddie and go it alone. Times have changed.

Newman uses his own age to full effect. Eddie is still handsome, but he moves cautiously and his pale eyes are tired and disillusioned (when he is finally spurred by Vincent's defection to go back into the game, he buys himself some spectacles). He watches Vincent's out-of-control energy and heedless mistakes with a mixture of indulgence, irritation and jealousy: he has his own experiences to remember and compare. Tom Cruise proves a worthy partner, with his sauntering youth and health and looks and physicality, his incorrigible willfulness and the crazy little war-dances he does around the pool table.

Their stage is a shabby, seedy world of pool halls and motels on city outskirts, moodily photographed by Michael Ballhaus, but rather overlaid by Robbie Robertson's persistent rock score.

Tom Kempinski's *Duet for One* was no doubt a very effective stage piece, a series of dialogues between a psychiatrist and his patient, a gifted musician struggling to come to terms with encroaching multiple sclerosis. Nor could its authority be challenged: Kempinski was writing from experience of psychiatric problems he had himself suffered, and the play quite evidently referred to the catastrophe that struck Jacqueline du Pré at the peak of her career.

rapid, nervously fragmented ostinato of anxiety in the first act to the Janáček-like psychological vortex of the third. Howard Williams, conducting, had the full measure of it.

An enthusiastic orchestra gave the singers plenty to tussle with. Among those who accepted the challenge head-on were Michael Forrest (Michel), a little stiff physically but a voice whose strength, range and character are worth looking out for. Sarah Fring as Julietta of warm bloom, well on her way to Glyndebourne; and Graham Stone, whose Man in Helmet made quite a mark.

There is a final performance with this cast tonight.

Hilary Finch

OPERA

Julietta
Guildhall School

fragile narrative is built around the hero's exploration of search, dream and reality: the motivation behind memory and recollection is the thread which holds the three acts together.

Lez Brotherton's set, with its doors, mirrors and all-enclosing nebulous sky, serves with economic variation, for the Village of Lost Memory, the Forest of Fantasy and the Central Office of Dreams. Martin's score stage-manages the audience's own vicarious journey from the

Bigotry bilious in its brilliance

Although they have precious little else in common, Joe Orton and Steven Berkoff have provoked resistance for the same reason. Orton, on paper, and Berkoff, in the flesh, come at you like thugs on a dark night and then get down to work with a glittering armoury of verbal skills. With equipment like that, you feel they ought to belong to the genre. But it is their tactic to demolish the enemy with his own weapons.

First seen at fringe addresses six years ago, *Decadence* is Berkoff's personal declaration of war on the English class system: a sequence of status myths and gross stereotypes, assembled in a spirit of fascinated loathing, and hurled into the house like a petrol bomb. It is a nice

THEATRE

Decadence
Wyndham's

irony that the piece has now arrived in the West End, which, according to the show's own demography, is a favoured watering-hole of the face-stuffing, parasitic, racialist top dogs who make up his collective foe.

I have never understood why he labelled them as decadent, as they are brimming with grotesque vitality and seem to have their lives well worked out. An unsuspecting pair of toffs prepare for a night out, beginning with copious drinks and couch-

manship and winding up at the ritziest of all restaurants, where the man eats himself into a state of explosive hydrocarbonation. Intercut with their scenes are the low-life meetings of the gangster Les and the girl with whom he plots an ever-more-extravagant and never-to-be-committed murder. The two groups, high and low, are treated with the same lacerating derision: the rich for their greed and unearned privileges, the poor for their stupidity in letting them get away with it.

There is no point in making any rational objections to this exercise in bilious prejudice, as the impact of Berkoff's work is visceral and visceral and the pleasures of hatred, are the essence of the show. It works marvellously because

Berkoff is matchlessly equipped to transform the gut-reactions of the outsider into material of high art.

Nobody could caricature him: face endlessly reborn into masks of curiosity, lust and arrogance; body corkscrewing and somersaulting over the couch (the only prop), and working with immense speed and vigilance. Among mimes, he is the only one I know who has developed a voice and a writing style that match his plastic resources. Linda Marlowe, his long-time partner, does not compete in this department but, whether as a bored doll, randy housewife or a vulgar virago who has seen through her bragging mate, she too is a treat.

Irving Wardle

experience as a play-reading.

That was one reason why Wednesday's British premiere performance of *Der Jahreslauf*, a scene from the Tuesday evening of *Licht*, was disappointing: another was that the piccolo, soprano saxophones, electronic keyboards, harpsichord, guitar and percussion of the ensemble were too loudly amplified. And perhaps a third, more substantial, is that the version for European instruments sounds like a poor transcription. The piece was written for the Imperial Gagaku Ensemble, and shows how extraordinarily Japanese Stockhausen can be in his sense of time as static and repeating, in his formality and in his lamentable sense of humour.

Der Jahreslauf is gagaku with dense growling harmonies and Stockhausen tunes. It did not, even in a well prepared performance under Richard Bernas, make for a

very exciting three-quarters of an hour.

The rest of the concert was occupied by three works for *shakuhachi* (Japanese recorder) and tape by English composers. Mike Vaughan's *It moves*... it moves not offered aggressive contrast between the fluttering instrument and nasty metallic noises, while Ian Dearden's short, witty *Shuffle* and Andrew Lewis's *Principles of Flight* both found more common ground. I wonder, though, if they all needed the *shakuhachi* to be amplified in such a small hall: Yoshikazu Iwamoto, the performer, was in the position of a water-colourist whose artistry we had to appreciate on a television set with the colour turned right up.

Paul Griffiths

RLPO/Groves
Philharmonic Hall,
Liverpool/Radio 3

Alexander Goehr is having an interesting year. His Symphony with Chaconne, premiered in January, seemed to channel his always profound musical ideas into a new expressivity and drama: a surprising and pleasurable breakthrough after some arid efforts in recent years. Now the Cambridge music professor has been chosen to give the next Reith Lectures; they will certainly be livelier than some.

How far Goehr has refined his orchestral style in the last two decades could be judged on Wednesday night, when the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic played his weighty 1970 score, *Symphony in One Movement*. This was only its third perfor-



Resonances of old as Eddie (Paul Newman, right) watches Vincent (Tom Cruise) in *The Color of Money*

As a film, however, adapted by Kempinski with Jeremy Lipp and the director Andrei Konchalovsky, it becomes a fairly awkward piece of medical voyeurism. We are called upon to witness the heroine's physical decay, starting with the nightmare moments when her fingers lose control on her squawking violin. When her wayward husband (Alan Bates) drifts away, she defiantly takes up with a junk dealer (Liam Neeson), and takes out her bitterness on her devoted maid (Macha Meril) and an admittedly irritating psychiatrist (Max von Sydow). In a coda even more improbable than the rest, the other characters assemble for her birthday while, apparently reconciled, she communes with an oak tree.

It is typical of the sugary unreality of the film that in this final scene, when she gazes into the

house to see the others hale, happy and dancing, a warm, gay light shines out of the window - even though it is full day outside.

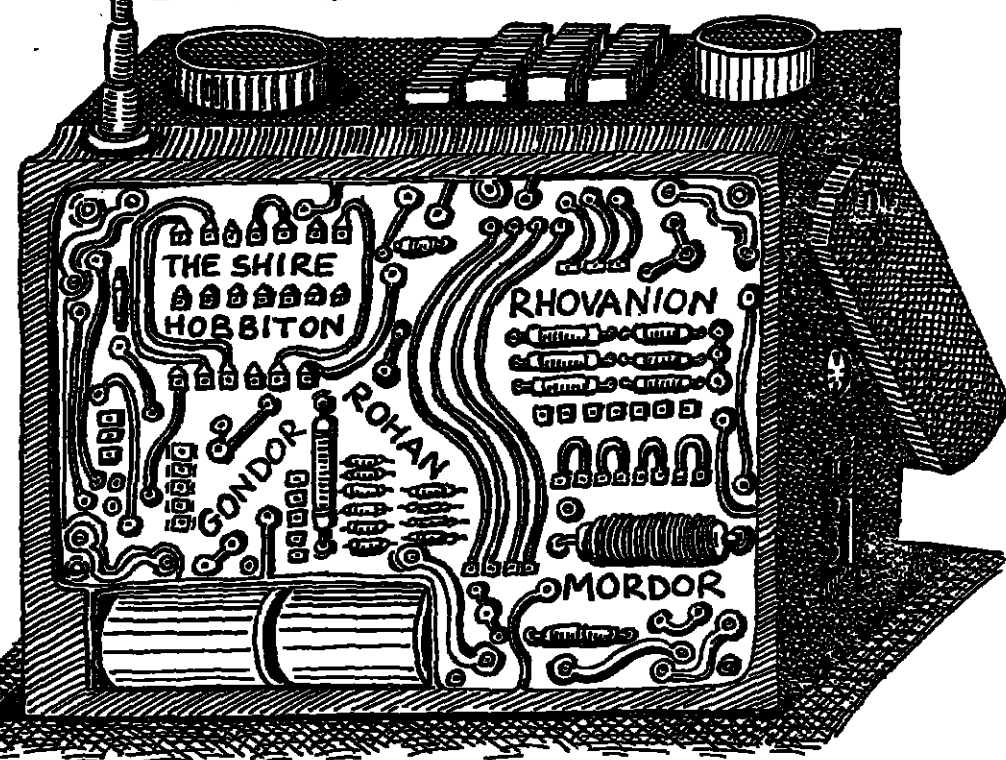
Julie Andrews is nothing if not game, even if she looks a good deal too robust. She gives some coherence to the part, though even she has a hard time when it comes to sonorous deliveries on great questions of Life and Death. The other characters are really cameos: Alan Bates, got up as a musician with open neck and Beethoven hair, looks more like an old lady and seems understandably confused by the role. Rupert Everett plays a cockney musical genius. The most appealing character (since he hardly speaks and spends half the film as a ghost) is Sigfrid Steiner as an aged Russian accompanist.

Whoops Apocalypse is adapted by Andrew Marshall and David

Renwick from their own television comedy series, and directed by Tom Bussman, whose background in commercials shows in his liking for one-point gags. The first reel or so - involving the death of an American President who used to be a circus clown, and a Falklands-style war waged by a British Prime Minister (Peter Cook) who believes in pixies - are often very funny. Then the invention suddenly runs out, and the rest is grimly unfunny. Even when there is vague promise of a comic idea it gets nowhere, and Rik Mayall is left desperately screeching four-letter words for want of funny lines. Ian Richardson and Tristram Jellinek have the best scenes, as a rear-admiral and his chauffeur-companion, parodying the domestic romances of old British war films.

David Robinson

Tolkien drew a map of Middle-earth.



BBC Radio 4 will take you there on Sunday.

'The Lord of the Rings' is set in Middle-earth and peopled with Hobbits, Wizards and Elves. Not to mention a 'horror' that even the primeval slime would disown.

Hard to visualise even with a map.

Easier to imagine if you allow the power of Tolkien's words to steal into your mind.

And easier still with Stephen Oliver's music and the voices of Michael Hordern, Ian Holm and John le Mesurier to transport you there on radio.

By popular request this classic returns in 13 one hour long episodes.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS

Starting Sunday, March 8th at 2.30 on BBC Radio 4.



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Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1602.0 (-10.4)FT-SE 100
2002.8 (+0.1)Bargains
52949 (52481)USM (Datastream)
153.36 (+0.63)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5770 (+0.0120)W German mark
2.8859 (+0.0118)Trade-weighted
71.4 (+0.5)£1 billion
price tag
for BAA

BAA Group, formerly the British Airports Authority, could have a stock market value of around £1 billion when it is privatized this summer, according to County Securities which is advising the Government on the flotation.

Mr Dan White, County's analyst, points out that it will be the first substantial private-sector airports system to be quoted in the world. Its historic cost profits have grown by almost 25 per cent compound annually in the past five years.

Mr White says: "BAA has shown itself to be one of the most consistent profit-earners in the air-transport industry." Given the sort of traffic growth envisaged and further efficiency gains, there is good reason to expect a healthy future, he adds.

Bank offer

The Scandinavian Bank's share offer was more than 17 times oversubscribed, attracting applications amounting to more than £988 million. Allocations are 200 shares for applications up to 500 shares; 300 for 600-1,000; 400 for 1,200-5,000; 500 for 5,500 to 12,500; and ranging up to a maximum of 100,000.

Radius growth

Radius is paying a final dividend of 2p, making 3p for the year to November 30. Turnover rose to £7.61 million from £6.49 million and pretax profit to £1.51 million from £991,000.

In tomorrow's 13-page Family Money we assess new criticisms of the insurance companies. Also, why you should act soon on private medical cover, bed-and-breakfast deals on unit trusts and how the costs of moving house can mount up. Plus, an up-to-date look at BES offers and how to reap the tax advantages of your holiday home.

Heywood rise

Heywood Williams, the glazing and aluminium group, raised pretax profits from £5.5 million to £7.8 million last year. Sales were up by £36 million to £138 million.

Bid talks fail

Talks on a possible takeover bid for Rotork, the valve control equipment and machine tools group, have fallen through. Rotork shares fell 12p to 164p.

BCal sale

Ryder Systems Inc has bought Caledonian Airborne Limited, a Scotland-based aircraft-engine repair subsidiary of British Caledonian, for an undisclosed amount.

Share offer

The share offer by Wilson Bowden yesterday closed oversubscribed.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2271.08 (+13.54)
Tokyo	1838.00 (+14.37)
Hong Kong	2798.44 (-22.48)
Hang Seng	267.4 (+2.1)
Amsterdam	1636.0 (+12.6)
Frankfurt	1750.4 (+12.3)
Brussels	4279.01 (+47.37)
Paris CAC	444.7 (+2.6)
Zurich S&K Gen	333.60 (+9.1)
London: FT A	89.28 (+0.57)
FT 100	2002.8 (+0.1)
Recent Issues	Page 22
Closing prices	Page 27

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base	11%
3-month interbank	10%-10.5%
3-month eligible bills	10%-9.5%
buying rate	
US: Prime Rate	7.5%
Federal Funds 5 ^{1/2} - 6 ^{1/2} %	
30-year Treasury	5.50-5.49%
30-year bonds	100 ^{1/2} - 100 ^{3/4} %

CURRENCIES

London:	New York
£: \$1.5770	£: DM1.8315
£: DM2.8859	£: Sfr1.5465
£: FF12.4349	£: FF16.0685
£: FF9.6158	£: Yen153.15
£: Yen241.53	£: Index104.1
£: Index71.4	SDR 30.808193
ECU 50	715910

Further strong rise in sterling
Bank fighting
interest cut

By Our City Staff

The Bank of England fought again yesterday against money and bond market pressure for a pre-Budget interest rate cut, leaving the pound to take the strain with a further rise in its trade-weighted index to a six-month high.

It closed at its best level since September 12, at 71.4 per cent of its 1975 value on the index, as foreign investors continued to buy into a currency which offers high relative returns and the possibility of short-term capital gains, dealers said.

Opinion is divided over whether the Bank can stop a cut before Budget Day, March 17 - and why it should want to do so.

The Bank's latest and strong signal to the market that it wants rates to stay steady for the moment went out mid-afternoon, when it lent to the discount houses at a penal rate of 11 1/4 per cent to relieve a money market shortage.

"They're really making the discount houses suffer," said Mr Stephen Lewis, economist at Phillips and Drew, the

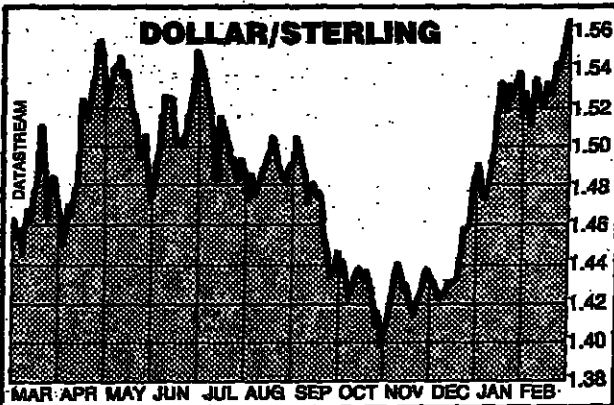
broker. "Eleven and three-quarters per cent is way above money market rates."

This money market signal was apparently not accompanied by any sterling sales on the foreign exchanges, talk of which had inhibited strong rises on Tuesday and Wednesday, so that buyers came strongly into the pound.

The pound surged to a high of \$1.5770 at the London close, up from the previous close of \$1.5650 and DM2.8859 up from DM2.8741.

"If this pressure keeps up there is a possibility that rates could drop before the Budget," said Mr Jeremy Hale, economist at Goldman Sachs, the broker.

Some gilt traders are forecasting a half-point cut in the base rate from the current 11 per cent as early as tomorrow but analysts said the Bank of England will need to be convinced that the present rate is a fundamental re-rating rather than a result of short-term speculative gains.

Payments
deficit set
to top £1bn

By Our Economics Editor

Britain's balance of payments worsened last year due to lower-than-expected earnings overseas, by insurance companies, the City, aviation and tourism.

Revised figures for invisible trade during the first three quarters of the year have increased the current account deficit for 1986 from an estimated £360 million to £1.1 billion. The estimated surplus in 1985 has also been revised down from £3.48 billion to £2.95 billion.

Trade in services, a part of the invisibles, was broadly unchanged in the final quarter of last year compared with the previous quarter but fell from £5.7 billion to £5.3 billion over the year as a whole. Within this, net earnings on financial and other services rose £1.4 billion during the year, though this was less than originally estimated.

On the travel account, spending abroad by Britons rose about £1.1 billion partly as a result of the fall in the exchange rate while spending by foreigners in Britain was unchanged. A surplus of £600 million in 1985, therefore, turned into a deficit of £500 million last year.

The civil aviation account also moved from a surplus of £300 million to a deficit of £200 million.

Earnings from interest, profits and dividends fell in the first quarter of last year from £1.33 billion in the previous quarter to £1.24 billion. Over the year they rose by a little less than expected from £2.94 billion to £4.26 billion.

Earnings on portfolio investments increased from £2.8 billion to £3.7 billion.

TI to sell domestic
appliance business

By Alexandra Jackson

TI Group, the engineering company, confirmed yesterday that it is to sell its domestic appliances business in up for sale. The division includes Corda electric cookers, Parkray solid fuel appliances and Glow-worm gas appliances.

The performance of this part of TI has been stable in recent years, producing annual pretax profits of about £20 million. However, City commentators were vague yesterday about the likely price to be realized. Estimates ranged between £150 million to £250 million.

The announcement to sell accompanied publication of the group's results to the year ending December 1986, which

showed pretax profits up from £20.5 million to £43.4 million. Turnover was up 4 per cent at £1.04 billion. Earnings per share rose by 58 per cent to 46.7p and a final dividend of 10p was declared, making a total for the year of 16p.

Mr Christopher Lewinton, chief executive of TI, said that the proposed disposal was aimed at concentrating the group's resources on its traditional strengths in specialist engineering.

TI's domestic appliance businesses have little presence in the £15 billion international market. TI's board feels the business would develop better under a management team wholly committed to its development.

Tempos, page 25

BHP plans rights issue
to float new company

Melbourne (Reuters) - The Broken Hill Proprietary Company said it plans a renounceable one-for-three rights issue to float a new company, BHP Gold Mines, which will hold most of BHP's gold interests.

The company said the 25-cent par rights would be priced at 50 cents for 430 million of the BHPGM shares on offer. BHP will subscribe for the remaining 540 million shares, or 56 per cent of issued capital, on the same terms.

BHPGM will pay Aus\$440 million (£193 million) for BHP's gold interests, excluding its stake in OK Fedi Mining of Papua New Guinea and those interests held by BHP's Utah International.

BHP said the issue will be

made to shareholders registered on March 27. It opens on April 4 and closes on April 28. It is underwritten by JB Wren and Son. Rights will be traded on Australian stock exchanges from March 23 to April 22 and the new shares will be quoted from June 4.

BHP said the new company will be one of Australia's larger gold producers, with annual output exceeding 170,000 ounces and there are plans to increase production to 300,000 ounces by the early 1990s.

BHPGM's portfolio will include several Australian mines - 30 per cent of Teferi, 100 per cent of Ora Banda and Browns Creek and 20 per cent of the new Boddington development.

Royal Ordnance wins MOD rifle order

On target for £100m

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

Royal Ordnance has won a £100 million order to produce the second tranche of the new SA80 short rifle/machine gun for the British forces.

The Ministry of Defence has told RO that it intends to place the order but it will not be confirmed until negotiations over the privatization of the state-owned arms manufacturer are completed. Bids for RO from the four shortlisted companies, British Aerospace, GKN, Ferranti, and Trafalgar House must be submitted by the end of next week.

The SA80 order was seen as crucial for the successful privatization of the company and will help secure the future of the small arms factory at Enfield, near London, where the first tranche of 175,000 guns worth £40 million is already in production.

Mr Roger Pannington, chief executive of RO, had warned

that the future of the Enfield plant would be in doubt without the order, leading to possible closure costs of up to £30 million. The privatization of RO, which is supposed to be completed early next month, could not proceed without the bidders knowing if the order would be placed.

Despite winning the second tranche they will still be job cuts at the loss-making Enfield plant. The 1,200 employees were told yesterday that up to 140 redundancies would be necessary as part of changes in working practices and manpower levels.

A company statement said: "Suitable redeployment of skills within the site will significantly reduce the number of those whose services must be terminated." It is hoped to avoid compulsory redundancies.

The total value of the SA80

The Shell group yesterday shrugged off the effects of the fall in the world oil price and announced record profits of more than £3 billion. It also raised its half-year dividend by a third and revealed that it is now the market leader on the world's oil reserves, having captured the largest slice of the market in the United States.

Shell said net profits were £2.5 billion - a fall of 16 per cent over the 1985 net figure - following stock losses of £832 million because of the fall in the oil price and losses of £370 million because of the fall in the value of the dollar.

However, the current cost figure, which Shell regards as more relevant to the international oil business, is up 8 per cent to £3,372 billion, reflecting the increased profits made by the sales and chemical divisions which benefited from lower prices for the crude they use as their raw material.

Shell is now sitting on a cash balance of £6.4 billion which its chairman, Mr Peter Holmes, said placed the firm in a strong position to benefit from the upturn in the oil market which appears to be starting.

The group has done three forecasts based on the likely development in the oil price markets and is believed to be happier with the best of them, which shows that Opec will hold to its new price and production agreement and that the price will move up to around the \$17 to \$18 a barrel mark.

Mr Holmes said that Opec output appeared to be running at a lower level than its daily output quota level of 15.8 million barrels a day while the

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

oil companies were eating into their stocks at a rate of 3 1/2 million barrels a day and were using up half a million barrels a day of stocks of refined products.

This use of stocks is more than twice normal levels and indicates that Opec predictions of a firming of the world oil market around the 15th of this month - two days before the Budget which is influenced by the level of tax revenue from the North Sea which rises with the oil price - could materialize.

North Sea oil cargoes for April delivery were changing hands at more than \$17 a barrel, with reports that prices for cargoes of refined products for delivery into Europe were also rising steadily.

Some refineries have been

put on spring and summer production schedules because of previous high stock levels, and there are now prospects of product shortages.

The Shell figures show that the annual dividend for 1986 will be 43p compared with 35p for 1985, a rise of 22.9 per cent. The half-year dividend at 29.5p is 31.1 per cent up on the dividend for the same period the previous year.

The main points affecting the Shell figures are a cut in earnings on exploration and production by half despite higher sales of crude oil and natural gas, but doubled earnings from chemicals production, lower taxation and increased profits from marketing and refining, more than offsetting heavy stocks losses.

Tempos, page 25



Jaguar chief and product: Sir John Egan taking on the world in quality production

Jaguar poised for Japan leap

By Ray Heath

Launching the latest Jaguar XJ6 model last year cost the company £11 million, and halted its profit growth, but Sir John Egan, the chairman, promised yesterday that there would be no reduction in the rate of investment.

Pretax profits of the company in the year to end-December were down from £121.3 million to £120.8 million, although turnover rose from £746.5 million to £830.4 million as sales of Jaguar cars

climbed from 37,952 to a record 41,256.

Sales of the new car which commanded a premium of up to £3,000 when it was launched in October, were 2,610. Next month it will be launched in Japan, through a joint distributorship set up with the Japanese Seibu stores group, and Jaguar directors are forecasting initial sales of 500 cars a year, rising to 3,000 or more.

The following month it goes

on sale in America, where Jaguar sold 24,901 cars last year, an increase of 24 per cent.

Sir John said yesterday that his task now was "to make Jaguar what it can be, which is the finest car manufacturer in the world."

A final dividend of 6.2p per share, makes the total 9.5p against 8.6p.

Jaguar shares fell 15p to 596p.

Tempos, page 25

US banks
divided on
Brazil debt

From Bailey Morris Washington

A deepening rift in the US banking community on negotiations with Brazil has placed pressure on the Reagan Administration to devise a new programme of concessions that will preserve the West's fragile international debt strategy, industry sources said.

Mr Paul Volcker, the Federal Reserve Board chairman, has held urgent sessions with officials of other US agencies to find a solution to the growing Brazil crisis.

The regional banks and New York's Citicorp are insisting on a hard line in negotiations with Brazil which announced it would suspend interest payments on its \$108 billion (£67.5 billion) debt. Other big money centres are advocating a softer approach.

A US Treasury official confirmed yesterday there had been a high-level meeting of officials from the National Security Council, the Treasury and the State Department to discuss Brazil but he said no change in policy is planned.

New rules at Lloyd's

Lloyd's has introduced new rules to force greater disclosure of commissions made in connection with arranging for membership of the insurance market.

The move implements recommendations of the report into Lloyd's by Sir Patrick Neill published in January.

An investigation is to take place to discover if there is any commercial justification for the

payment of introductory commissions, and it is expected that the information obtained under the new rules will assist in this.

Although the commissions have been reviewed before and strong arguments have been made for banning them, a spokesman said the Council of Lloyd's decision to investigate the practice again did not mean there was any fear-

Mercury
sells 25%
of MAM
for £38m

By Richard Thomson Banking Correspondent

Mercury International, the securities conglomerate which owns SC Warburg, the merchant bank, yesterday announced the sale of 25 per cent of Mercury Asset Management, the City's largest fund management company, raising £38 million of new capital.

Mercury said that the main reason for the sale was to emphasize the separation of the fund management operations from the market-making and investment banking operations of Mercury.

Mr Peter Stormonth Darling, chairman of MAM, said there had been pressure from potential customers to separate the two sides of the group's operations to avoid conflict of interests.

He added that MAM also required more capital to satisfy rules being brought in by the Securities and Investments Board for investment management companies.

The proceeds of the share sale are expected to take MAM's capital well above the £40 million needed to meet the SIB requirements.

The issue of 17.5 million shares at 5p each values the whole of MAM at £158.4 million. On prospective profits pretax profit of £21.6 million, the price/earnings multiple is 11.3 times.

Mercury International will continue to hold 75 per cent of the company, while 10 per cent of the MAM share issue will be offered to MAM employees.

MAM manages between about £20 billion of funds, mostly for pension funds and institutional investors. It also handles about £1 billion of funds in unit trusts and runs several offshore funds.

The company said its main areas of expansion are likely to be in the retail fund-management sector and in marketing investment funds overseas.

HEARING LOSS,
THE FACTS NOT THE
FICTION!

Did you know that nearly 10 million people in Great Britain suffer from a noticeable degree of hearing loss?

Did you know that your hearing may be affected by your work, your way of life, or even such common illnesses as measles, mumps or influenza?

Did you know that as you get older you may not hear higher pitched sounds, making speech difficult to follow especially if someone is talking quickly?

Did you know that hearing loss may be temporary and normal hearing can be restored, quite simply, without the use of an aid?

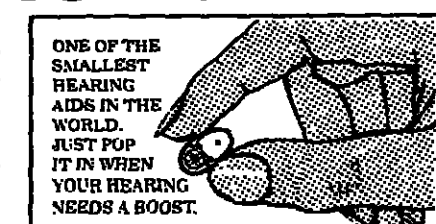
Did you know that partial hearing loss causes constant stress and may affect your job, your family and your friends?

At Hidden Hearing we specialise in the problems and solutions to hearing loss.

We know that your hearing is as individual as your eyesight so every aid is made specially to suit your particular problem.

And we know that you want to keep your hearing loss your secret, so we make completely self-contained aids no bigger than your fingernail.

Hidden Hearing have already helped many thousands of people



back to clearer, sharper hearing. So if you want to know more about how we can help you, fill in the coupon today. We'll send you a FREE INFORMATION PACK by return of post.

I would like to improve my hearing. Please post me your free information pack. NO STAMP IS REQUIRED.

To: HIDDEN HEARING LTD., FREEPOST NORTHAMPTON NN1 5BR.

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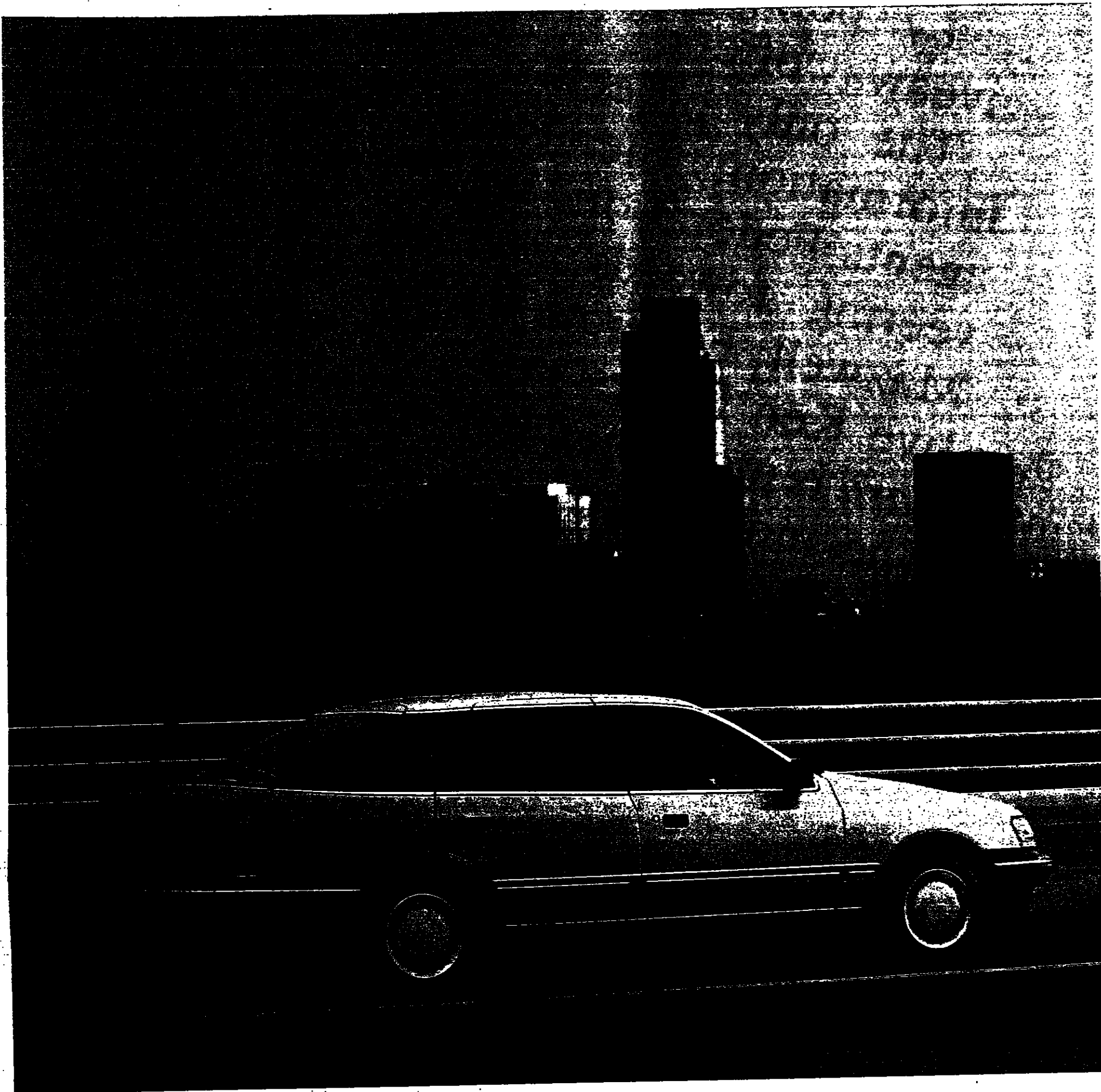
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SPECIAL PRICES FOR OVER 55's

HIDDEN HEARING IS PART OF THE WORLDWIDE GN DANAVOX ORGANISATION

7/2



The new Granada 2.9. Greater flexibility pays dividends in the city.

Few things in life are as annoying as City traffic. You may be able to cope but is your car always up to it? What you need is a car that pulls away really smoothly at low engine speeds; a car, that is, with plenty of torque.

That's the greatest asset of the new Granada V6's, the 2.9 and the 2.4. Both these refined engines develop lots of torque at low speeds.

This makes them very flexible.

Not only will you find them completely unflustered in stop-go traffic, but also they accelerate more smoothly away from corners without

changing down and really pour on the power when overtaking.

If you'd like some figures that prove the point, we can tell you that fourth gear acceleration from 30 mph to 50 mph is 1.4 seconds faster with the new 2.9 than it was with the 2.8*. Not a lot on paper, but quite significant on the road.

Top speeds are impressive too - 129 mph for the 2.9 and 121 mph for the 2.4*.

Apart from that, you'll be pleased to hear the 1987 Granadas are hardly changed. After all, the previous model did win 18 major international

awards including the most prestigious of all, 'Car of the Year 1986'. They're still the same stunning shape, they're still exceptionally spacious inside, and of course, anti-lock brakes are still standard equipment in every model in the range.

Also, you can still buy 1.8 and 2.0 litre models. And there's a 2.9 with four wheel drive.

Whichever you choose, we're sure it'll be quite a success in the City.

*Ford computed figs. for optional manual 5-speed Ghia.

The new Granada
2.9 and 2.4.



... this ...
 ... pointing to its property
 giveaway offer.

The only objective source of
 information, the Retail News-
 agents Federation, seemed to be
 veering towards bad news for
 Maxwell. Federation chief execu-

tive Ken Peters said: "The Stan-
dard is more than holding its own.
 The indications from our checks
 are that the *LDN* sales are dis-
 appointing, and there has not been
 any marked difference in response
 even at the new price of 10p."

campaign
 6 March 1987

OUR SALES ARE

TUESDAY	24 TH FEB	578,905	COPIES
WEDNESDAY	25 TH FEB	570,300	COPIES
THURSDAY	26 TH FEB	550,822	COPIES
FRIDAY	27 TH FEB	571,415	COPIES
MONDAY	2 ND MAR	564,208	COPIES
TUESDAY	3 RD MAR	563,069	COPIES

At the end of the day, there's only one Standard.

THE LONDON EVENING

STANDARD



THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Talking to the Bank

Larry Adler, the latest Australian financier to invest in Britain — by way of a 14.02 per cent stake in Hill Samuel, the merchant bank — was, I hear, called before the Bank of England yesterday morning. Sources inside the Bank tell me that the meeting was called to discuss the amendments to the Banking Bill — prompted by Adler's stake-building through his FAI Insurance vehicle — which make it difficult for foreigners to own more than 15 per cent of any British bank. Hungarian-born Adler, aged 55, went straight into the Bank into a Press briefing at the Savoy. Somewhat hurt, I gather, that Christopher Cassleman, chief executive of Hill Samuel, has expressed a desire not to meet him during his week long stay in London. Adler let it be known that he had no intention, "yet", of bidding for Hill Samuel, that he was "probably" going to be a long term shareholder, and that he was currently considering a couple of other investments in Britain, in the financial services arena.



"Hammers Construction, nil! Hotspur Property Development, one..."

Good news

The City office of Good Relations, the publicly quoted PR firm which has had more than its share of bad luck in recent years, is on the move. In May, it will be moving from Queen Street, just round the corner from Sweetings, to Red Lion Court, off Fleet Street. When a move to the West End was threatened a couple of years ago, it precipitated a walk-out by half a dozen staff and a dramatic tumble in the share price. But Piers Portinger, chief executive of GR City, assures me that history is not about to repeat itself. "This time, all the staff are staying in place," he says.

Alan Deal, chairman of snooker group Riley Leisure, left for Peking yesterday, taking seven of Britain's best snooker players with him. Deal is the man accredited with introducing the infectious game into China, but this will be the first time a tournament has been staged. Among those going on the tour are Steve Davis, Dennis Taylor and Willie Thorne.

£15m thorn

Thorn EMI could receive more than £15 million for its central London office block in Upper St. Martin's Lane. Thorn House, a 12-storey, 72,000 sq ft freehold building, has been put up for sale and the company hopes to move its central office staff to a smaller, 15,000 sq ft leasehold building off Hanover Square by mid-summer. During the past two years, the number of employees at Thorn House has fallen from 240 to 90. "Some floors are now completely deserted," says a spokesman.

Heard the one about the German teacher at Tunbridge Wells Girls School called Brush, who insisted that his pupils call him Herr Brush?

Quiet life

Far from taking life easy following his "retirement" as managing director of News International in December, Bruce Matthews has been busy building empires of his own. Still a director of News Corp. Murdoch's master company, Matthews, aged 61, has in the past two months taken on a leading role in five other companies. In his native Australia he is now a director of Malco, a quoted engineering shell, which has just raised A\$536 million to fund its expansion abroad. In Japan he is establishing an investment company. Japan Equities, with an Australian quote and long-haired millionaire Terry Ramsden as its chairman, in Britain he is running a private investment company, Lancaster Gate Finance, he has become chairman of Satellite Information Services, and he has set up a PR company, Colman Getty. Further action in Britain is planned. During 1987 he will be moving into three or four British companies — and moving towards taking them over," he says.

Carol Leonard

Crucial battle for the world's telecom giants

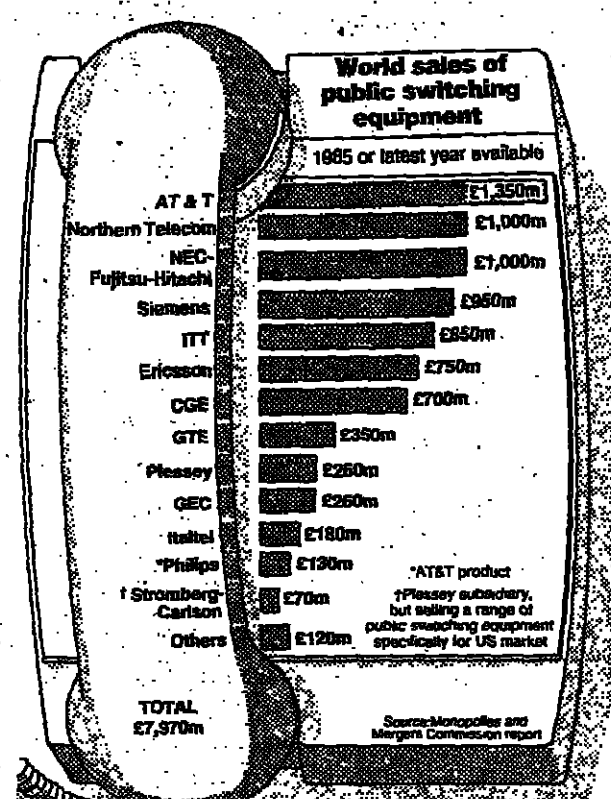
The European telecommunications equipment industry is in a state of flux. To the uninitiated outsider the situation can often appear a jumble of names and initials, a complex game of partnership-changing by companies seeking crucial international alliances. What follows is a basic guide to the present situation. This week's headlines have focused on the fate of the French government-owned telephone equipment manufacturer, CTE Générale des Constructions Téléphoniques (CGCT) which is being privatized.

By Monday's midnight deadline, five potential buyers had submitted offers. They included most of the world's leading telecommunications companies — Northern Telecom of Canada, Ericsson of Sweden, West Germany's Siemens, and a partnership of American Telephone & Telegraph Co and the Dutch electronics group Philips NV. Plessey of Britain decided against bidding.

CGCT is a troubled, loss-making business, but it holds a 16 per cent share of the French market for public telephone switches, in competition with the state-owned telecommunications group Compagnie Générale d'Électricité (CGE) which itself is due to be privatized in May. For the would-be purchasers of CGCT, the loss-making company represents a unique chance to break into the French market.

In an industry suffering from massive overcapacity, there are two driving forces: links with other switch manufacturers for muscle on a crowded world stage and a larger market share, particularly overseas.

There are eight telephone switchgear manufacturers in Europe, compared with the general perception that the world market can support only four or five. So everyone



is looking for alliances, spurred on by the soaring costs — up to \$1 billion (£641 million) — of developing a new switch.

Add to this the nationalistic tendencies of most telecommunications companies, and the feeling in Europe that pan-European links are necessary to see off the might of the US and Japan, and the scene is set for lively conflict. The battle of CGCT has been caught up inextricably with the link last year between ITT, the American multinational conglomerate and CGE, involving the merger of the telephone equipment manufacturing interests of ITT and CGE — under the control of CGE.

For CGE, the deal created the second-largest telecommunications equipment

company in the world accounting for about 43 per cent of the European market in public telephone switches, one which could compete with the likes of AT&T and Japan's NEC.

The new company will have a turnover of about \$9 billion, operations in more than 75 countries, and a staff of 164,000. It will have a broad spread of sales in Europe, including a 40 per cent share of the West German market through ITT's subsidiary, Standard Elektrik Lorenz (SEL).

It was originally seen as a joint-venture company which would have other European partners but only the Belgian telephone group, Société Générale de Belgique, took a stake when it came to the final signing.

Telefonica, Spain's telephone monopoly, was to have bought a 10 per cent holding, but negotiations failed. Other companies, including Plessey, declined invitations to join.

The West Germans were not pleased with the deal which effectively put SEL under French control and some reciprocal arrangement was needed. Lobbying started in support of Siemens's bid for CGCT which was owned by ITT before nationalization, and prompted an immediate reaction from the US.

In mid-1985 the AT&T-Philips alliance, formed to sell switches outside the US, had been chosen by CGE as the preferred purchaser of CGCT — a highly controversial decision.

The French politicians, in favour of co-operation within Europe, wanted a European buyer. But AT&T was offering a potential route for French switches into the deregulated US market. After a big public row, the AT&T agreement was put to one side and rival bids arrived, including one from Siemens. The French government plans to choose a buyer by the end of next month.

Mr David Dey, head of telecommunications at Plessey, said Plessey dropped out of the bidding for CGCT because the commitments sought about jobs, the level of future exports, and the reinvestment of profits, made it an unattractive package.

So what future for Europe? The AT&T-Philips alliance could well be reassessed if it fails with CGCT. Siemens has linked with GTE of the US and is fighting hard for American sales. Italy of Italy did not bid for CGCT but plans to bring together its switching interests with the transmission business of Telettra of Italy (owned by Fiat) and is then likely to link with a foreign manufacturer.

In Britain, GEC and Plessey, the two manufacturers of Britain's System X exchange, recently announced limited co-operation covering research and development and the international marketing of their switch which has so far failed to win exports. But, for the time being at least, there is to be no joint venture between the two businesses. Their home territory is also becoming tougher, as Thorn Ericsson can now tender for orders from BT.

Industry experts forecast it will take up to five years for the European switch market to be fully open.

How many survivors there will be remains to be seen.

Teresa Poole
Business Correspondent

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

MAM makes an offer investors cannot refuse

What does an investment management company cost? Until now they have tended to sell at very high p/e multiples, but Mercury Asset Management has decided to have none of that. The City's biggest fund manager is offering shares at a price investors cannot refuse. The £38 million that will be raised is a far smaller proportion of funds under management than a pension fund company could normally expect to get, and the 11.3 multiple on pro forma profits is well under the multiples of 15 times and more which fund management groups have got in the past.

MAM gives two reasons for its generosity. One is that institutional fund management is not nearly as lucrative, in relation to the assets involved being managed, as retail fund management, for example unit trusts. While unit trusts charge management fees of about 1.5 per cent, most of MAM's services to pension funds cost less than a percentage point. The other reason is that Mercury feels obliged to offer its existing shareholders — this is a form of rights issue — an attractive price which will guarantee a hefty premium in the after-market. However unattractive the shares of Mercury International appear, MAM is one not to be missed for Mercury shareholders.

Does this mean that shareholders in other financial conglomerates should ask for the same treatment? Morgan Grenfell, after all, comes not far behind MAM in the amount of funds under management in its investment division. Other financial conglomerates with substantial fund management operations also come to mind.

Mercury insists that the chief reason

for the share offer is to emphasize the Chinese wall between MAM and the rest of the group. It claims that although existing investment clients are not worried, some potential clients have held off because of possible conflicts of interest. The effectiveness of the move depends on whether you think Mercury International's remaining 75 per cent holding of MAM will not remain all-powerful. Additionally, a large slice of the 25 per cent of MAM on offer is likely to stay in the hands of existing Mercury shareholders, whose loyalties will not therefore lie wholly with MAM. The share offer is unlikely to guarantee an impenetrable Chinese wall.

Other groups may hesitate before following Mercury's example because fund management traditionally provides stable earnings and cash flow — a valuable support for groups involved in the highly uncertain world of the securities markets.

Cynics might argue that offers of this kind can boost the value of the fund management division if the shares rise sharply. That would make predatory raids on the parent, such as Saul Steinberg's on Mercury last year, a little more difficult. But the requirement for more capital to satisfy Securities and Investments Board rules may be the most pressing reason for some groups. This was the second main reason given by MAM for the offer. To conglomerates which have already stretched themselves for capital on their securities operations, adding further funds to their fund management businesses could be a problem. In those circumstances, a share sale like MAM's would be the obvious solution.

Vigil for independence

Attack may now be the best form of defence for companies which believe they are likely to come under attack by a predator. Recent events suggest that keeping a close eye on the share register is an effective method of frustrating a likely takeover bid.

The object is to identify a prospective bidder before he has had a chance to build up a sizeable interest and let market forces take over. The shares of the target company start to move in anticipation of a bid and the exercise becomes that much more expensive for the bidder.

A shrewd piece of detective work by building and packaging group Norcross has almost certainly kept it out of the clutches of the acquisitive paper and plastics conglomerate Bunzl. Early last week Norcross pointed the finger at Bunzl as the ultimate owner of a 2.6 per cent stake in the business, built up through a network of 21 nominee names. Bunzl coyly confessed to having acquired the stake which was enough to send the share price of Norcross rocketing on the stock market. Yesterday Don Latimer, Bunzl director, confirmed that

the stake in Norcross had since been sold — at a profit, of course.

The news sent the Norcross shares tumbling back to 307p, down 21p on the day. Terry Simpson, chief executive of Norcross, would not comment on whether last week's tactics had produced the desired effect of making the company too expensive to bid for.

Birmid Qualcast (lawnmowers and Potterton boilers) — for years considered a likely takeover target — launched its own pre-emptive strike by highlighting the 4.9 per cent stake built up by Hepworth Ceramic. Inevitably its shares bounded ahead.

Combined English Stores, another bid favourite, has admitted to merger talks with the Ratners jewellery chain after a sharp rise in its share price which must have cooled the ardour of Ratners to agree terms. CES has strongly denied being the source of the leaks but the speculation worked to its advantage.

The lesson for companies in fear of surrendering their independence is to maintain a vigilant guard over their share register. They may find their new shareholders are harmless investors — or wolves in sheep's clothing.

TI takes familiar route on the way to recovery

Engineering is more glamorous than you think if TI's decision to sell its domestic appliance business and reinvest the proceeds in specialist engineering is anything to go by.

Cookers and kettles do not apparently have what it takes to fuel the next stage of the group's recovery. Instead, TI plans to return to its familiar stamping ground of engine rings, tubes, seals and specialty furnaces to power it into the 1990s.

Admittedly, TI was virtually forced to choose between its two principal businesses. In the early 1980s, domestic appliances acted as a crutch for the group, providing a steady profits flow until TI was fit enough to initiate a strategy for the future.

Now the time has come to decide which offers the better growth prospects. It is not possible to support both businesses.

A good range of engineering products backed by a strong research and development team should set the group up well.

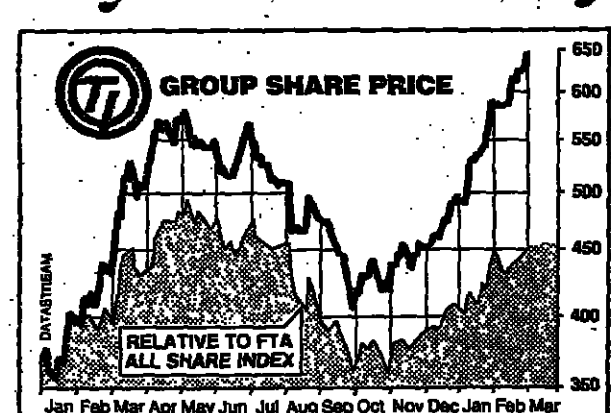
The rewards of this strategy are risk apparent, but there are risks. The group will be less broadly spread by industry and customer type and could suffer in, for example, the automotive field if pressure is put on suppliers.

About 80 per cent of the £700 million of turnover remaining is performing well. There is room for improvement in the specialized tube business which has suffered from the fall off in oil-related activity. Parts of the automotive business have also been disappointing performers.

The aim is to earn 10 per cent on sales and a return on capital in excess of 20 per cent. The return on capital is already close to or at this level but margins are lagging behind. If the target was reached trading profits would be at least £70 million.

As for the wisdom of the decision to reinvest in specialized engineering as opposed to some other area, only time will tell. The group has definite requirements to buy businesses which fit in well with the existing businesses. Market share, international presence and a good technological backing are important prerequisites. The recent purchase of the European tubing interests of the American group Armaco is a taste of things to come.

Selling businesses is, however, easier than buying them so there could be a full while TI looks around to see what is on offer. When the sale of the domestic appliances business is eventually announced investors will have the opportunity to trade their shares with a view to buying them back later in order to



benefit from the reinvestment programme.

The share price has already done much to discount the success of the new TI. However, if it bears fruit TI could be unrecognizable in a few years' time.

Shell

Even though shares of both Shell Transport and Royal Dutch Petroleum collapsed after disappointing third quarter figures, full year results yesterday for the group found the stock market in distinctly receptive mood.

Net income for the full year on a reported basis was better than most expectations by perhaps £200 million or so at £2.54 billion. On a current cost basis they were £3.37 billion, also comfortably ahead of expectations.

The group's upstream activities showed signs of improvement in the fourth quarter even though they bore the scars of the collapse in crude oil prices in the early part of 1986. Over the full 12 months exploration and production earnings were halved even though oil production volumes and gas sales were higher. The US was worst hit in this respect.

Downstream, there were signs of improving margins and this can be expected to continue for some time to come. Though earnings from manufacturing, marketing and marine operations were better, the reported figures suffered from substantial stock losses.

The contribution from chemicals more than doubled, continuing the recovery which began in 1983. Financially, the group remained in good shape. Cash and short-term securities amounted to £6.4 billion at the year end, up from £4.8 billion 12 months. Since the year end there has been a further decrease in both long and short term debt.

The share price looks set to continue its recovery since the sharp fall in the wake of the third quarter statement.

Jaguar

Yesterday's full year results of Jaguar carried the burden of the launch in this country

of the new XJ6, which went into the showrooms in October. The history of the motor industry is studded with tombstones of specialist manufacturers who misread the market. Jaguar's team has not. It sold 2,610 in under three months.

The new model has halted the group's profit growth, but this was clearly forecast at the half-way stage, and the final pretax profits of £120.3 million, down from £121.3 million, were exactly in line with the expectations of most analysts in this country, although in the US there had been higher expectations, which explains the fall of 15p to 596p in the share price.

The next test for Jaguar is the XJ6 roll-out across America, scheduled for May. Again the omens are good. Currencies play a key role in Jaguar's finances, and the current sterling/dollar ratio is not helping, although once again, some judicious hedging is cushioning the blow, but Jaguar is laughing all the way to the foreign exchange markets compared to German rivals.

With the XJ6 off the launch-pad, the team of Sir John Egan, the chairman, can crack on with their job. By the second half of this year, production can be expected to be running at more than 50,000 cars a year, against last year's total of 47,000. Sir John is anxious that as much of possible of the increased production will be met from productivity, rather than a larger workforce. That is why the company will have to carry on polishing its act, through some very heavy spending on robotics and other automated production line equipment. So spending at the rate of £100 million a year on plant can be expected until the next decade.

This programme makes Jaguar a share for investors with a long term view, who should not be put off by the fall from 48.5p to 46.1p in earnings per share last year. The historic p/e of 12.9 is still below the sector average, and profits can be expected to accelerate again to over the £130 million mark.

Queen's flight: the BAe 146 will replace the royal Andovers

Quiet jet makes a big noise

When the first BAe 146 jet took to the air on September 3 1981 almost the entire aviation industry scratched their heads at its bewilderment at the "eccentric" British.

No one, they said, would ever want a four-engine aircraft with seats for only 100 passengers and a range of just 1,500 miles.

At first it seemed they were right. Orders were slow to arrive and it began to look as if Britain's attempt to re-establish itself as a major aircraft producing nation would turn into an embarrassing fiasco.

But the planners who had convinced the then-nationalized company to invest hundreds of millions in the new jet had done their market research well. And at last it is beginning to look as if the 146 will repay British Aerospace handsomely for the £500 million it has so far spent on developing it.

To date 91 jets have been sold to 11 operators in five countries. Significantly 84 of those orders have been placed by foreign airlines.

It is still a long way from breaking even. The company privately believes it will need to sell about 200 of the jets before the balance sheet begins to turn from red to black. But, while only a few months ago reaching that magic figure was at best uncertain, officials are now confident it will be surpassed.

One of the main reasons is the move in every country in the developed world towards curbing the noise made by jets. Thousands of aeroplanes will have to be phased out the next few years. And the 146, although facing competition from new rivals with engines which make only a fraction of the noise of existing jets, remains easily the quietest jet flying. This has been especially

helpful in America where Southern California led the way in banning existing jet aircraft from the smaller airports. The 146 proved even quieter than many of the small propeller-driven aircraft flying in and out.

Then the move towards the development of "hub and spoke" services, with large international airlines in the United States absorbing the small regional carriers and using them to fly shuttle services from smaller cities to feed passengers on to long haul routes, meant that a new market for short-range 100-seaters opened up.

The Queen needed a new short-range aircraft to replace her propeller-driven Andovers and she chose the 146, much to the delight of British Aerospace, which has so far received firm inquiries from six heads of state.

China also launched a major development of its airline services, often flying from difficult runways which the 146 proved superb at handling.

Now yet another "door" has opened. As the Hercules military transport aircraft shows signs of its age with air forces around the world, the 146 is emerging as an ideal replacement.

Meanwhile BAe is stepping up the production rate of the aircraft in its Woodford factory near Manchester from 28 a year to 40 a year. And the Swedish company Saab, which builds the tail and flying controls, and the American Arco group who supply the wings and the engines, are beginning to think that the British intuition of the mid-1970s was not so eccentric and they could find their products being used on a world beater.

Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Public Limited Company

Notice is hereby given that a balance of the Register will be struck on Friday, 10th April 1987 for the preparation of warrants for a Final Dividend for the year 1986 of 29.5p per 25p Ordinary Share. If approved at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 14th May, 1987 the dividend will be paid on 18th May, 1987.

For transferees to receive this dividend, their transfers must be lodged with the Company's Registrar, Lloyds Bank Plc, Registrar's Department, 11, Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 3LB, at least five clear days for examination, or may be surrendered through MM, Lazard Freres, Paris.

Share Warrants to Bearer

The Coupon to be presented for the above dividend will be No. 175 which must be left at Lloyds Bank Plc, Registrar's Department, Issue Section, 11, Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 3LB, at least five clear days for examination, or may be surrendered through MM, Lazard Freres, Paris.

Shell Centre, London, SE1 7NA
5th March, 1987

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
D. W. Chesterton
Company Secretary

NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE

Putting people first since 1830

157th Annual General Meeting

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 157th Annual General Meeting of the National Mutual Life Assurance Society will be held at 5 Bow Churchyard (off Cheapside) in the City of London on Tuesday, the 21st day of April 1987, at noon for the following purposes:

to receive and consider the Directors' Report, the Accounts for 1986 and the Auditors' Report thereon; to re-elect Directors; to approve the rates of Directors' remuneration; to re-appoint the Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

A member qualified to vote at the above meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on a poll instead of him. A proxy need not be a member of the Society.

By order of the Board

W. P. Jackson
6th March 1987
W. P. JACKSON
Secretary

100

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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55.20 1000

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 23. Dealings end today. \$Contango day next Monday. Settlement day March 16.
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks, volumes are on page 22

Portfolio - Gold -

© Times Newspapers Limited

DAILY DIVIDEND

£4,000

Claims required for

+32 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

AY

Portfolio - Gold -

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Lister	Textiles	
2	Pratt Marston	Property	
3	Capenhurst	Property	
4	Greenall Whiteley	Breweries	
5	Fisher (James)	Shipping	
6	Honda Motor	Motors/Aircraft	
7	Medinipur	Leisure	
8	Poko Walsland	Mining	
9	Stylo	Shoes/Leather	
10	Gaskell Broadloom	Textiles	
11	By Syphon	Industrials A-D	
12	Spring Ram	Industrials S-Z	
13	Red Int (a)	Industrials L-R	
14	Hartley	Mining	
15	Alexandra Wear	Industrials A-D	
16	Ne-South Inds	Industrials L-R	
17	Scott Greenham	Industrials S-Z	
18	Bristol	Newspapers/Pub	
19	RTZ (a)	Mining	
20	First Leisure	Leisure	
21	Black Arrow	Industrials A-D	
22	Arlington Secs	Property	
23	TVS NVF	Cinema/TV	
24	Deakin	Textiles	
25	Power (John)	Industrials A-D	
26	Beaufort	Industrials L-R	
27	Robertson Res	Industrials L-R	
28	Perkins	Industrials L-R	
29	SA Breweries	Breweries	
30	Centreway Ind	Industrials A-D	
31	Arlen	Electricals	
32	Harris (Philip)	Industrials E-K	
33	Bracken	Mining	
34	Midsummer	Leisure	
35	Baird (Wm)	Industrials A-D	
36	Reynon	Industrials L-R	
37	Gieves	Industrials E-K	
38	P-E International	Electricals	
39	Br Bonnet	Chemicals/Plas	
40	Lovell (V)	Building Roads	
41	Harrison Ind	Building Roads	
42	Bryant	Building Roads	
43	Redington	Breweries	
44	Bulmer (H P)	Breweries	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

1986 High Low Stock Price Change

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	1986 High	1986 Low	Stock Price	Change
1	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
2	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
3	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
4	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
5	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
6	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
7	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
8	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
9	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
10	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
11	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
12	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
13	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
14	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
15	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
16	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
17	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
18	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
19	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
20	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
21	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
22	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
23	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
24	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
25	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
26	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
27	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
28	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
29	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
30	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
31	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
32	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
33	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
34	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
35	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
36	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
37	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
38	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
39	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
40	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
41	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
42	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
43	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
44	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
45	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
46	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
47	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
48	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
49	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
50	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	1986 High	1986 Low	Stock Price	Change
1	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
2	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
3	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
4	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
5	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
6	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
7	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
8	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
9	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
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41	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
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43	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
44	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
45	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
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49	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
50	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	1986 High	1986 Low	Stock Price	Change
1	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
2	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
3	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
4	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
5	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
6	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
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39	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
40	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
41	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
42	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
43	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
44	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
45	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
46	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
47	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
48	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
49	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
50	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00

UNDATED	1986 High	1986 Low	Stock Price	Change
1	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
2	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
3	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
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7	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
8	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
9	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
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19	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
20	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
21	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
22	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
23	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
24	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
25	100.00	95.00	100.00	5.00
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SWIMMING

Promising return to form by Croft

By Roy Moor

June Croft, Britain's freestyle sprint record holder, making a comeback after a two-year absence, won two gold medals and a bronze in the Australian championships just concluded in Perth.

Both gold medals came from swimming for Brisbane in the freestyle relay and the bronze for third place behind the Dutch Olympic medal winner, Annemari Verstaapen.

Miss Croft expressed disappointment at not succeeding in an attempt for an individual gold medal. I had trained hard to win a title but perhaps I was too hard," she said yesterday. "I just seemed to lack that extra snap when I needed it most. But I am delighted that I am approaching my old form again."

"My training spell here in Australia is preparing me nicely for the summer season in England. I return to Wigan in five weeks and am convinced I can get back to winning form there."

In Perth, Miss Croft, whose British record for 100 metres stands at 56.60sec, swam 57.9sec while finishing eighth to the Australian winner, Julie McDonald, in the 100m final.

In taking the 200m bronze she touched in 2min 4sec and over the same distance in the relay recorded 2min 1 sec, a shade slower than her British record of 1min 59.74sec.

Esso yesterday confirmed their continued support of English youth swimming with presentation of a £20,000 cheque to Harry Booth, the recently elected president of the Amateur Swimming Association.

In addition to sponsoring the district age-group championships (12 to 18 years old) and the national inter-county knockout competition, money will be used for training the national youth squad and sending them to Quebec and Montreal next month for international experience.

Morgan leads challenge for Welsh

The British junior international, Dean Morgan, has the difficult task of leading the Welsh team's effort to avoid the wooden spoon in the Speedo international schools meeting in Galway on March 21. Wales have finished bottom of the table at the four previous Speedo schools meetings, which bring together the best young swimmers of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

The other forces in the Welsh team should be the national champions, Sharon Rosser and Helen George, and Scotland will represent the team. Ewing, of Renfrewshire, will take part in the senior 100m freestyle, butterfly, backstroke.

The Times on sport in the universities: Part 2
A degree of financial strain

THE REDBRICK REVOLUTION

Though the current state of university sport is healthy, with an increasing number of students taking part in a wider variety of sport there can be no guarantees for the future.

In the current economic climate, the universities, sport is often viewed as a luxury. Durham have had to cut 10 per cent off their budget of £180,000 for the administration and maintenance of their sports facilities and Sam Stoker, the chairman of their facilities committee, is not sure how long they can keep up their present standards.

"Sport is a very important part of the ethos of this university but so are a lot of other things. This year we should be able to manage but I cannot make promises for the future," Stoker says. In order to increase their income, the university have already let out their sports hall for, among other things, a pop concert and a cat show in the vacations.

Newcastle University are considering closing down one of their sports fields because they have not got the money to maintain it.

Sport at Oxbridge is subject to the same pressures - more people wanting to compete in more sport and less money to go round - and their heads are turning in the same direction, towards sponsorship.

The prestige of sport at Oxbridge has made the job of finding money easier than in the redbricks. Oxford's hockey team has been sponsored for nine of the last 10 years and the largest and most publicized sponsorship in the history of Oxbridge sport has been Beefeaters £110,000 a year backing of the Boat Race.

Ian Grant, secretary of the UAU, has already had some success in gaining sponsorship for UAU sport. Last year, for the first time, sponsorship enabled the organization of a home countries universities rugby championship. Currently, he is in discussion with potential sponsors for a package which will cover every one of the UAU's 30 championship sports.

Financial security such as this would not only generate a



Thorburn: The Welsh full back is a product of University College, Swansea's sports scholarship

the expense of academic qualities, there is a feeling that industry could become more involved in sponsoring sports scholarships.

At University College, Swansea, which has a number of Welsh full backs, Paul Thorburn and Mark Wyatt among their recent graduates they have recently established a sports scholarship scheme funded by the university itself.

Eight scholarships, worth £1500 for three years, have been awarded in the two years of the scheme and three of the current scholars represented their countries in the Commonwealth Games, two at swimming and one at athletics.

If that sort of scholarship became more readily available through funds from industry, fewer sportsmen would have to take the choice made by the universities. The current captain Kevin Ratcliffe, who left after one term of his architecture degree at Liverpool University to play for Everton.

Andrew Longmore

Yuri Matschenko, general secretary of the British Universities Sports Federation, which organizes representative championships in 40 sports, and the British Students Sports Federation, the administrative body for the whole of student sport, is aware of the confusion. "The complexity of the present system has stunted the programme of UAU sport," he says. "We need to

Ijaz Faqih restores Pakistan's shine with unbeaten 104

From Qamar Ahmed, Ahmedabad

A chanceless, unbeaten hundred by the all-rounder, Ijaz Faqih - his first in Test cricket - steered Pakistan to the responsibility of 379 for seven at the end of the second day of the fourth Test against India at the Gujarat stadium here.

The innings came in sharp contrast to the painfully dull first day's play, when the touring team closed on 130 for four. Faqih, the difference between lunch and tea, and had already surpassed the previous best mark of 142 against India, set by Zaheer Abbas and Ashraf Ali at Lahore in 1984-85 before the second interval.

In the first over after tea, though, it was broken when Imran was bowled by Gopal Sharma, the off-spinner, for 72. His chanceless innings lasted 220 minutes, and contained eight fours, plus a six off Yadav.

That was the last wicket to fall on the day. Ijaz, who became the first batsman to score a Test hundred at the Gujarat stadium during the final session, and Abdul Qadir, added another 49 runs before the close.

Today is a rest day, and play should resume on Saturday before a full house, for the state Government have declared a public holiday.

Pakistan's first innings: 41 runs, 10 wickets. 1-2-3-3-4-4-5-5-6-6-7-7-8-8-9-9-10-10-11-11-12-12-13-13-14-14-15-15-16-16-17-17-18-18-19-19-20-20-21-21-22-22-23-23-24-24-25-25-26-26-27-27-28-28-29-29-30-30-31-31-32-32-33-33-34-34-35-35-36-36-37-37-38-38-39-39-40-40-41-41-42-42-43-43-44-44-45-45-46-46-47-47-48-48-49-49-50-50-51-51-52-52-53-53-54-54-55-55-56-56-57-57-58-58-59-59-60-60-61-61-62-62-63-63-64-64-65-65-66-66-67-67-68-68-69-69-70-70-71-71-72-72-73-73-74-74-75-75-76-76-77-77-78-78-79-79-80-80-81-81-82-82-83-83-84-84-85-85-86-86-87-87-88-88-89-89-90-90-91-91-92-92-93-93-94-94-95-95-96-96-97-97-98-98-99-99-100-100-101-101-102-102-103-103-104-104-105-105-106-106-107-107-108-108-109-109-110-110-111-111-112-112-113-113-114-114-115-115-116-116-117-117-118-118-119-119-120-120-121-121-122-122-123-123-124-124-125-125-126-126-127-127-128-128-129-129-130-130-131-131-132-132-133-133-134-134-135-135-136-136-137-137-138-138-139-139-140-140-141-141-142-142-143-143-144-144-145-145-146-146-147-147-148-148-149-149-150-150-151-151-152-152-153-153-154-154-155-155-156-156-157-157-158-158-159-159-160-160-161-161-162-162-163-163-164-164-165-165-166-166-167-167-168-168-169-169-170-170-171-171-172-172-173-173-174-174-175-175-176-176-177-177-178-178-179-179-180-180-181-181-182-182-183-183-184-184-185-185-186-186-187-187-188-188-189-189-190-190-191-191-192-192-193-193-194-194-195-195-196-196-197-197-198-198-199-199-200-200-201-201-202-202-203-203-204-204-205-205-206-206-207-207-208-208-209-209-210-210-211-211-212-212-213-213-214-214-215-215-216-216-217-217-218-218-219-219-220-220-221-221-222-222-223-223-224-224-225-225-226-226-227-227-228-228-229-229-230-230-231-231-232-232-233-233-234-234-235-235-236-236-237-237-238-238-239-239-240-240-241-241-242-242-243-243-244-244-245-245-246-246-247-247-248-248-249-249-250-250-251-251-252-252-253-253-254-254-255-255-256-256-257-257-258-258-259-259-260-260-261-261-262-262-263-263-264-264-265-265-266-266-267-267-268-268-269-269-270-270-271-271-272-272-273-273-274-274-275-275-276-276-277-277-278-278-279-279-280-280-281-281-282-282-283-283-284-284-285-285-286-286-287-287-288-288-289-289-290-290-291-291-292-292-293-293-294-294-295-295-296-296-297-297-298-298-299-299-300-300-301-301-302-302-303-303-304-304-305-305-306-306-307-307-308-308-309-309-310-310-311-311-312-312-313-313-314-314-315-315-316-316-317-317-318-318-319-319-320-320-321-321-322-322-323-323-324-324-325-325-326-326-327-327-328-328-329-329-330-330-331-331-332-332-333-333-334-334-335-335-336-336-337-337-338-338-339-339-340-340-341-341-342-342-343-343-344-344-345-345-346-346-347-347-348-348-349-349-350-350-351-351-352-352-353-353-354-354-355-355-356-356-357-357-358-358-359-359-360-360-361-361-362-362-363-363-364-364-365-365-366-366-367-367-368-368-369-369-370-370-371-371-372-372-373-373-374-374-375-375-376-376-377-377-378-378-379-379-380-380-381-381-382-382-383-383-384-384-385-385-386-386-387-387-388-388-389-389-390-390-391-391-392-392-393-393-394-394-395-395-396-396-397-397-398-398-399-399-400-400-401-401-402-402-403-403-404-404-405-405-406-406-407-407-408-408-409-409-410-410-411-411-412-412-413-413-414-414-415-415-416-416-417-417-418-418-419-419-420-420-421-421-422-422-423-423-424-424-425-425-426-426-427-427-428-428-429-429-430-430-431-431-432-432-433-433-434-434-435-435-436-436-437-437-438-438-439-439-440-440-441-441-442-442-443-443-444-444-445-445-446-446-447-447-448-448-449-449-450-450-451-451-452-452-453-453-454-454-455-455-456-456-457-457-458-458-459-459-460-460-461-461-462-462-463-463-464-464-465-465-466-466-467-467-468-468-469-469-470-470-471-471-472-472-473-473-474-474-475-475-476-476-477-477-478-478-479-479-480-480-481-481-482-482-483-483-484-484-485-485-486-486-487-487-488-488-489-489-490-490-491-491-492-492-493-493-494-494-495-495-496-496-497-497-498-498-499-499-500-500-501-501-502-502-503-503-504-504-505-505-506-506-507-507-508-508-509-509-510-510-511-511-512-512-513-513-514-514-515-515-516-516-517-517-518-518-519-519-520-520-521-521-522-522-523-523-524-524-525-525-526-526-527-527-528-528-529-529-530-530-531-531-532-532-533-533-534-534-535-535-536-536-537-537-538-538-539-539-540-540-541-541-542-542-543-543-544-544-545-545-546-546-547-547-548-548-549-549-550-550-551-551-552-552-553-553-554-554-555-555-556-556-557-557-558-558-559-559-560-560-561-561-562-562-563-563-564-564-565-565-566-566-567-567-568-568-569-569-570-570-571-571-572-572-573-573-574-574-575-575-576-576-577-577-578-578-579-579-580-580-581-581-582-582-583-583-584-584-585-585-586-586-587-587-588-588-589-589-590-590-591-591-592-592-593-593-594-594-595-595-596-596-597-597-598-598-599-599-600-600-601-601-602-602-603-603-604-604-605-605-606-606-607-607-608-608-609-609-610-610-611-611-612-612-613-613-614-614-615-615-616-616-617-617-618-618-619-619-620-620-621-621-622-622-623-623-624-624-625-625-626-626-627-627-628-628-629-629-630-630-631-631-632-632-633-633-634-634-635-635-636-636-637-637-638-638-639-639-640-640-641-641-642-642-643-643-644-644-645-645-646-646-647-647-648-648-649-649-650-650-651-651-652-652-653-653-654-654-655-655-656-656-657-657-658-658-659-659-660-660-661-661-662-662-663-663-664-664-665-665-666-666-667-667-668-668-669-669-670-670-671-671-672-672-673-673-674-674-675-675-676-676-677-677-678-678-679-679-680-680-681-681-682-682-683-683-684-684-685-685-686-686-687-687-688-688-689-689-690-690-691-691-692-692-693-693-694-694-695-695-696-696-697-697-698-698-699-699-700-700-701-701-702-702-703-703-704-704-705-705-706-706-707-707-708-708-709-709-710-710-711-711-712-712-713-713-714-714-715-715-716-716-717-717-718-718-719-719-720-720-721-721-722-722-723-723-724-724-725-725-726-726-727-727-728-728-729-729-730-730-731-731-732-732-733-733-734-734-735-735-736-736-737-737-738-738-739-739-740-740-741-741-742-742-743-743-744-744-745-745-746-746-747-747-748-748-749-749-750-750-751-751-752-752-753-753-754-754-755-755-756-756-757-757-758-758-759-759-760-760-761-761-762-762-763-763-764-764-765-765-766-766-767-767-768-768-769-769-770-770-771-771-772-772-773-773-774-774-775-775-776-776-777-777-778-778-779-779-780-780-781-781-782-782-783-783-784-784-785-785-786-786-787-787-788-788-789-789-790-790-791-791-792-792-793-793-794-794-795-795-796-796-797-797-798-798-799-799-800-800-801-801-802-802-803-803-804-804-805-805-806-806-807-807-808-808-809-809-810-810-811-811-812-812-813-813-814-814-815-815-816-816-817-817-818-818-819-819-820-820-821-821-822-822-823-823-824-824-825-825-826-826-827-827-828-828-829-829-830-830-831-831-832-832-833-833-834-834-835-835-836-836-837-837-838-838-839-839-840-840-841-841-842-842-843-843-844-844-845-845-846-846-847-847-848-848-849-849-850-850-851-851-852-852-853-853-854-854-855-855-856-856-857-857-858-858-859-859-860-860-861-861-862-862-863-863-864-864-865-865-866-866-867-867-868-868-869-869-870-870-871-871-872-872-873-873-874-874-875-875-876-876-877-877-878-878-879-879-880-880-881-881-882-882-883-883-884-884-885-885-886-886-887-887-888-888-889-889-890-890-891-891-892-892-893-893-894-894-895-895-896-896-897-897-898-898-899-899-900-900-901-901-902-902-903-903-904-904-905-905-906-906-907-907-908-908-909-909-910-910-911-911-912-912-913-913-914-914-915-915-916-916-917-917-918-918-919-919-920-920-921-921-922-922-923-923-924-924-925-925-926-926-927-927-928-928-929-929-930-930-931-931-932-932-933-933-934-934-935-935-936-936-937-937-938-938-939-939-940-940-941-941-942-942-943-943-944-944-945-945-946-946-947-947-948-948-949-949-950-950-951-951-952-952-953-953-954-954-955-955-956-956-957-957-958-958-959-959-960-960-961-961-962-962-963-963-964-964-965-965-966-966-967-967-968-968-969-969-970-970-971-971-972-972-973-973-974-974-975-975-976-976-977-977-978-978-979-979-980-980-981-981-982-982-983-983-984-984-985-985-986-986-987-987-988-988-989-989-990-990-991-991-992-992-993-993-994-994-995-995-996-996-997-997-998-998-999-999-1000-1000-1001-1001-1002-1002-1003-1003-1004-1004-1005-1005-1006-1006-1007-1007-1008-1008-1009-1009-1010-1010-1011-1011-1012-1012-1013-1013-1014-1014-1015-1015-1016-1016-1017-1017-1018-1018-1019-1019-1020-1020-1021-1021-1022-1022-1023-1023-1024-1024-1025-1025-1026-1026-1027-1027-1028-1028-1029-1029-1030-1030-1031-1031-1032-1032-1033-1033-1034-1034-1035-1035-1036-1036-1037-1037-1038-1038-1039-1039-1040-1040-1041-1041-1042-1042-1043-1043-1044-1044-1045-1045-1046-1046-1047-1047-1048-1048-1049-1049-1050-1050-1051-1051-1052-1052-1053-1053-1054-1054-1055-1055-1056-1056-1057-1057-1058-1058-1059-1059-1060-1060-1061-1061-1062-1062-1063-1063-1064-1064-1065-1065-1066-1066-1067-1067-1068-1068-1069-1069-1070-1070-1071-1071-1072-1072-1073-1073-1074-1074-1075-1075-1076-1076-1077-1077-1078-1078-1079-1079-1080-1080-1081-1081-1082-1082-1083-1083-1084-1084-1085-1085-1086-1086-1087-1087-1088-1088-1089-1089-1090-1090-1091-1091-1092-1092-1093-1093-1094-1094-1095-1095-1096-1096-1097-1097-1098-1098-1099-1099-1100-1100-1101-1101-1102-1102-1103-1103-1104-1104-1105-1105-1106-1106-1107-1107-1108-1108-1109-1109-1110-1110-1111-1111-1112-1112-1113-1113-1114-1114-1115-1115-1116-1116-1117-1117-1118-1118-1119-1119-1120-1120-1121-1121-1122-1122-1123-1123-1124-1124-1125-1125-1126-1126-1127-1127-1128-1128-1129-1129-1130-1130-1131-1131-1132-1132-1133-1133-1134-1134-1135-1135-1136-1136-1137-1137-1138-1138-1139-1139-1140-1140-1141-1141-1142-1142-1143-1143-1144-1144-1145-1145-1146-1146-1147-1147-1148-1148-1149-1149-1150-1150-1151-1151-1152-1152-1153-1153-1154-1154-1155-1155-1156-115

Boxing: Andries will be swinging away now he has the attention he deserves from his British supporters

Manley's defeat gives Hearn's camp the jitters

From Srikanth Sen
Boxing Correspondent
Detroit

Boxing experts in Joe Louis's city could not believe that Joe Louis Manley had been destroyed in 10 rounds by Terry Marsh, of Britain. "This Marsh must be some fighter," said Angelo Travena, who has been helping Dennis Andries prepare for the defence of his World Boxing Council light-heavyweight title against Thomas Hearn's camp tomorrow. "Because Manley is a good fighter." Travena said, "I think Andries will knock out Hearn."

Emmanuel Steward, Hearn's manager, also had a high regard for Manley and believed he would win. His defeat was another blow to the boxing pride of the Americans while they were still recovering from the one Honeyghan had dealt them by demolishing Donald Curry last year. You can be certain that Steward will be getting together with all the fight strategists of the Krunk gym here to double check Hearn's battle plans.

While it is not surprising that Marsh showed aggression, for he had stopped Peter Eubanks and Randy Mitchell with sharp punching, the meanness of his attack that involved holding, butting and elbowing shows a face of the mid-mannered fireman one had never thought existed.

Marsh always had the grit and the stamina to stay with the best in the world but just took a little time getting up steam. Both Marsh and his trainer, Ernie Fossey, were clearly impressed by the way Honeyghan went out and grabbed the title and decided to do the same. Many must have been surprised by this out-of-character behaviour of Marsh. For, during all confrontations before the bout, he had given the impression of being a mellow Marsh. And now Marsh's example is sure to be reflected in Andries's bout against a man with a fearsome reputation.

Andries is a wild enough boxer as it is, but under threat of annihilation by a Hearn's right hand one can rely on him to follow in Marsh's footsteps and bull



Andries: Thinking fighter

Honeyghan: spirited

Hearn's all over the ring — or at least try to. It will not be surprising if both he and Hearn were to land outside the ring as the result of Andries's eagerness to get stuck in.

Though the Honeyghan syndrome will no doubt encourage youngsters with a new fighting spirit in the gym, only four British world contenders really need to draw on it: Marsh, Andries, Herol Graham and Frank Bruno.

Of the four, Bruno looks the least likely to profit. Terry Lawless, his manager, has called in George Francis to inject a mean

streak in the gentle giant.

Bruno's nervous system does not seem to know how to cope when he is struck on the chin with a great blow. In trying to put into effect what Francis has taught him he could become more confused and find himself in even bigger trouble. It is difficult to see Bruno rushing up to someone like Mike Tyson and getting in the first punch.

It would not be surprising if Marsh reverted in his first defence against a man like Frankie Warren to stand-up boxing. Warren is a hard little fighter and a

terrier. By good boxing, Marsh could turn Warren's aggression into frustration.

Marsh's fireman's duties in Tilbury means that he cannot live in a permanent state of hype like Honeyghan and he is too sensitive to boxing techniques to imagine you can always fight fire with fire.

Andries of course is Andries and he will be so here, swinging away regardless. At long last he has the undivided attention of boxing supporters in Britain and United States. And thanks to Marsh's success and ITV's exciting boxing package this week ending with the showing of the Tyson-James "Boncrusher" Smith bout in Las Vegas on Sunday, there is sufficient interest in Andries's defence to gain him the recognition he has always demanded, but been denied.

Unless he walks into a Hearn's right hand he can be expected to more than match Marsh's performance. It should be an exciting tactical battle, for Hearn is one of the finest boxer-fighters in the world.

Marsh's victory had the distinct effect of relaxing Andries, who had taken to his room and emerged from time to time to rail against the world for ignoring him. "I am very happy for Marsh," he said. "They underestimated him. But I can tell you Hearn is not underestimating me because he knows what I am going to do to him."

Regardless of how Andries stands up to Hearn's you could have knocked Andries over with a feather when his proposed bout with the Irish American giant, Gerry Conney, was brought up yesterday. Andries had not been told about it by his manager, Gert Steens.

"This is the first I'm hearing of it," he said. "I would be crazy to fight Conney even for a million dollars. I would want 30 million dollars to fight him and a million dollars to pay the hospital to put my pieces together again."

It was a most refreshing piece of realism in this all too unrealistic world of boxing. For all his unorthodox boxing, Andries is a thinking fighter.



On air: Terry Marsh jumping for joy
(Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Tyson eager to get going

The title bout in Las Vegas between Mike Tyson, the World Boxing Council champion, and James "Boncrusher" Smith, the World Boxing Association champion is the seventh in the series to unify the world's heavyweight title. The showdown in May should have been between Michael Spinks, the International Boxing Federation champion, and the winner of the Tyson-Smith bout. But Spinks has been stripped of his title for failing to defend against Tony Tucker. The last bout of the series will therefore be between Saturday's winner and that of the

bout between Tucker and Buster Douglas.

Smith, a university graduate, has rationalized his unenviable task of facing Tyson. "I've got Tyson to thank for making me a million dollars," he said yesterday. "Tyson is a heavy hitter. I believe he is invincible. But I am the first man who has a punch to knock Tyson out and he knows it." Tyson's reply was typically simple: "It'll be interesting to see what happens when Boncrusher rushes at me. I am looking forward to getting it together to see what Boncrusher is made of."

TENNIS

Mecir into the semi-finals as Edberg has a bad day

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Miami

The singles semi-finals of the Lipton international players championships, which are pressing a claim for membership of the traditionally exclusive grand slam club, could not have worked out much better for the customers or the prestige of the tournament.

True, Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg were not around. But the vacancies were filled by Jimmy Connors, an exciting player, and Miloslav Mecir, the great illusionist of tennis.

The men's line-up is Ivan Lendl v Connors and Yannick Noah v Mecir. The women's semi-finals worked out even better as the seedings suggested they would: Martina Navratilova v Steffi Graf and Hana Mandlikova v Chris Lloyd. The drama of the quarter-finals was concentrated into two of the men's matches, as Edberg 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 in two hours and 21 minutes and Noah precariously got the better of Mats Wilander by 6-4, 6-2, 4-6, 2-6, 7-6 in three hours and 48 minutes.

Mecir won his first three matches with Edberg, lost the next three, but now seems to be back on course again. The playing conditions here took some of the sting out of Edberg's serving and volleying. He did not do either particularly well, certainly not as well as in the recent Australian championships. "I didn't get as many free points as I did the last couple of times we played," Edberg said.

On the other hand Mecir's game was good enough to erode Edberg's confidence. The "Big Cat" was so effective with his service returns and passing shots that Edberg was often in two minds about going to the

net, which was where he needed to be. The quality of the shot-making, especially by Mecir, was often breathtaking. It was a pity that, because of rain, the congested programme, there was no room for this gem of a match on what is known here as the stadium court, that is, the biggest.

Edberg was uncharacteristic of Edberg, that is, after the match, he was grumpy and peevish. He had been here too long, he said, and was tired of the place. He did not think much of the tournament and considered it had "no atmosphere". He also had a go at his hotel and the food.

Maybe it had not occurred to him that he could change hotels and was under no compulsion to stick to the same cuisine every day. Moreover, there is an unwritten rule in tennis that losers — especially Swedes — are not supposed to "whinge", as Australians are fond of putting it.

Edberg was just having a bad day. The player was in fact not so bad. He has probably never been happier on this side of the Atlantic. He is staying in a hotel on the beach and spends his spare time swimming or strolling along the shore or simply watching the company of his parents. "There is a good atmosphere," Mecir said. "This is the first time my parents have come with me to the United States and I want to make them happy."

Edberg's compatriot, Wilander, played two awfully tiring matches — each lasted almost four hours — on consecutive evenings. In each case the nimble and niggling Swede

somehow had to blunt the edge of the "big" game played by larger, stronger men: Tim Mayotte and Noah in turn. When Noah won the first two sets, it seemed unlikely that Wilander would have enough petrol left in the tank to take him over three more sets.

But Wilander began to play bolder and better tennis. When he won the third set and then the fourth, one's mind went back to the French final of 1983, when Noah just managed to beat Wilander in three sets at a time when Noah was evidently reaching a point when there was not much hitting and running and leaping and lunging left in him.

On this occasion he retained the capacity for winning easy points on his service. This superb athlete was slightly the fitter and more assertive of the two in the nerve-ravaging crisis of the fifth set.

● Austen Brice, from Cheshire, and Clare Wood, from Sussex, have been named as Britain's top junior players, based on performances during 1986.

● The 1986 Federation Cup women's world team competition will be held in Melbourne, Australia from December 4 to 11.

● Australia's Davis Cup hero, Pat Cash, lines up with three newcomers, Wally Masur, Peter Doohan and Brod Dyck, against Yugoslavia in next week's world group first round in Adelaide.

RESULTS: Men's singles: Quarter-finals: J Connors (US) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; S Edberg (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; I Lendl (CZ) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; Y Noa (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Semi-finals: J Connors (US) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; I Lendl (CZ) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Final: J Connors (US) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.

WOMEN'S: Singles: Quarter-finals: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; C Lloyd (AUS) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Semi-finals: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; C Lloyd (AUS) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Final: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.

DOUBLES: Men's: Quarter-finals: J Connors (US) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; I Lendl (CZ) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Semi-finals: J Connors (US) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; I Lendl (CZ) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Final: J Connors (US) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.

WOMEN'S: Doubles: Quarter-finals: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; C Lloyd (AUS) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Semi-finals: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; C Lloyd (AUS) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Final: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.

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WOMEN'S: Doubles: Quarter-finals: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; C Lloyd (AUS) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Semi-finals: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; C Lloyd (AUS) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Final: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.

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MPs table motion on 'Big Four'

By John Goodbody

Three MPs have tabled questions in the House of Commons about the domination of the horse and greyhound racing industries by the Big Four bookmakers.

Their control of the two sports, which has been the subject of an investigation in *The Times*, is already being examined by the Office of Fair Trading. John Giffitts, the Conservative MP for Slough, has asked the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry whether he will refer to the OFT plans by the larger bookmakers to establish their own rule making body to control afternoon greyhound racing at tracks which they own and operate.

In a letter printed in *The Times* on Tuesday, Major-General James Majury, the senior steward of the National Greyhound Racing Club (NGRC), alleged that powerful bookmaking interests are planning to replace the NGRC as the governing body for afternoon racing.

The 1986 Federation Cup women's world team competition will be held in Melbourne, Australia from December 4 to 11.

● Australia's Davis Cup hero, Pat Cash, lines up with three newcomers, Wally Masur, Peter Doohan and Brod Dyck, against Yugoslavia in next week's world group first round in Adelaide.

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WOMEN'S: Singles: Quarter-finals: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; C Lloyd (AUS) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Semi-finals: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; C Lloyd (AUS) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. Final: S Graf (S) 6-4, 6

